



国家清史编纂委员会·编译丛刊影印系列

美国政府解密档案（中国关系）

# 美国驻中国广州领事馆领事报告 (1790—1906)

Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Canton, China,  
1790-1906

广西师范大学出版社 组织整理

程焕文 审订

— 11 —



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*Atk, & Co. For Cont. despatch  
No. 14  
see no. 18  
may 2/83  
D. H. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Jan 25 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Opinion at Canton Agency.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Opinions to their continuance.  
Reasons why the State Department  
should adopt the plan suggested by  
by the Council, & disapproval of the  
course recommended by U.S. Cons. in charge.*

N<sup>o</sup> 14

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 26 - 1883

Wm. H. Wood

Third Asst. Secy of State

Washington D.C.

Sir

Respectfully

referring to my dispatch No 13, dated 9<sup>th</sup>  
inst (vide third page), as to what I regard  
summary expenses of the Consular Agency  
at Canton, I am in receipt of letters from the  
Consular Agent, Mr Jones, at Canton, &  
Mr Tier (now General Cheshire, at  
Shanghai; disapproving of my suggestion  
of action; and as I am fully persuaded  
that when it is so difficult to obtain  
appropriation from Congress to defray  
the absolutely necessary expenses of the  
various Departments of the Government,



2

the temper of the American people would not tolerate a continuance of such nonsense as expenditures for expenses of \$176.10 per 1/4 yr or rather, fees included, \$179.10, while the entire business of the 1/4 yr amounted to only three dollars, with no public good as the result.

I am informed by Mr. Cheshire U.S. C. G. in Charge, at Shanghai, in a letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> inst as follows -

"I have written to the Department asking it to disapprove of the course you suggest, as I believe it would not be beneficial to American interests at Swatow."

I may, perhaps, be a mystery to ordinary men that in a port which has so little com-

sular business as Legation, any  
 one could be found with sufficient  
 patriotism to conduct consular  
 correspondence of such magnitude  
 as the items for stationery &  
 postage would represent,  
 for such small pay as half  
 of the fees. The solution of that  
 mystery is found, as I believe,  
 in the fact that the Ex-consul  
 Agent, Mr Williams; and the present  
 Consul Agent, Mr Jones; and the  
 Interpreter, Mr Shin Kye Pang;  
 (and perhaps the Chinese Writer)  
 are all in one, & the only one  
 American Commercial house at  
 Legation; & that the great bulk  
 of the correspondence with the  
 Chinese authorities, during some



quarter and years, related  
 to the private interests of the  
 Consul's officers at Swatow  
 and, furthermore, that the other  
 "American interests" at Swatow,  
 the Missionaries, do not regard  
 my plan with disfavor; but,  
 on the contrary, have refused  
 to comply with the solicitation  
 of the Ex-consular Agent and the  
 present Consular Agent as to getting  
 up a remonstrance at Swatow  
 against the Consul's plan of  
 having the greater portion or  
 nearly <sup>all</sup> of the business of the  
 Interpreter & Chinese Writers  
 done in the Consulate at Swatow.

I regard such unnecessary  
 expenses as have been incurred

by the Government at Swatow,  
 & probably many other similar  
 places, in China & elsewhere,  
 as little short of robbery;  
 and with this conviction, I  
 propose to carefully overhaul  
 the correspondence between  
 the Consular Agency at Swatow  
 & the Chinese officials; & give  
 the Department the result  
 of my discoveries.

In the  
 meantime I shall not  
 be a party to what I believe  
 a swindle that would not  
 be justified for a moment  
 under the light of investigation.

While writing, I have before  
 me the Chronicle & Directory for

Persia, in 1882, just brought to  
 me from the Library of the Canton  
 Club, confirming my suspicion  
 that the entire Consular force  
 at Canton was in one business  
 establishment, while letters read to  
 me by several eminent Minis-  
 ters who have called at the Consulate, &  
 acquainted me with the feelings  
 & desires of their Canton colleagues  
 & correspondents, admit of no doubt that,  
 so far as American interests are  
 concerned, outside of the Com-  
 mercial concern which has so  
 long used the Consular Agency  
 as an appendage to their or  
 its business outfit, I would be  
 glad to be emancipated from what  
 has been a dreaded source of power  
 in unfriendly or indifferent interests.



But there is yet another better reason for having the Chinese correspondence for this Consul District at Canton only. viz: That as this is the residence of the Viceroy, to whom whose rulings are referred & subjected all important business in his two Provinces, in one of which are both Canton & Swatow, it is desirable that there should be no possibility of any conflict or inconsistency in our correspondence with those very discerning & astute men who are entrusted, by China, with the duty of conducting correspondence with representatives of other countries.

I respectfully suggest that you permit me to reduce the expenses at least \$400. four hundred dollars, by allowing me to expend say \$220. per annum for the interpretation & writing of

of Chinese correspondence connected  
with the Agency of Canton, either  
here or there, as deemed most equitable  
& advisable; instead of \$620,000 at Canton.

I believe that the  
expenses of the Canton Consulate  
can be kept down or diminished,  
while the Consular business of the  
present fiscal year will be larger  
than any three years combined  
prior to 1881; & I am very desirous  
to shake off all needless expense,  
so that this Consulate shall  
make a good business exhibit.

I am the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully Yours

Charles Seymour

M. Consul.

{ A copy of this  
dispatch mailed  
to the Vice Consul  
Genl. in charge,  
as this is mailed  
per St. Paul's sailing 27th inst. } C.S.



No. 15

*Mr. H. J. H.*

*D. H. C. C. C.*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> 1883*

*no mail  
received*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Continuation of report on the  
Swatow Agency.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Visit from the Ex-Consular Agent.  
Reasons urged by him for continuance  
of "Interpreter & Writer".*

*His admission as to the Consular force in his temple.*



N<sup>o</sup> 15

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 26<sup>th</sup> 1883

~~Mr. A. A. A.~~

Third Asst. Secy of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir

Yesterday I wrote you,  
as per dispatch N<sup>o</sup>. 14, mailed at 7½ o'clock  
this morning, in regard to the expenses for  
Interpreter & Writer at the Swatow Agency;  
and a few minutes after my dispatch was  
mailed, Ex-Consular Agent C. C. Williams,  
of Swatow, called to see me in reference to  
that business. He said he had just come from  
Shanghai & Hong Kong; & hastened away by  
fast boat, at 8 o'clock, to Hong Kong, after urging  
me to continue the Interpreter & Writer at  
Swatow Agency. He stated that the  
Chinese Writer is also in his employ -

2

as well as the others named in my No. 14.  
He said his firm is the only American  
business house in Swatow - that the other  
Americans are Missionaries chiefly; but  
there are a few in the Chinese custom house  
service. He represented that the contingency of  
emergency might arise that an American  
ship might possibly arrive at Swatow, &  
require consular aid to suppress smuggling, &  
in which event I stated to him the Consular  
Agent would be justified & authorized to  
meet the emergency, which might not  
occur once in many years. He thought  
the dignity of the American Government & Nation  
required a full Consular establishment at Swatow.  
I told him the men who voted  
the necessary appropriations for the  
various Departments of the Government had  
more regard for efficiency & economy than dignity.

In reply to my question - "Who would or were to be benefitted by keeping up those expenses at Canton, except his firm & the Consular Officers?", he fell back on the two points I have just stated.

As Mr Williams is evidently trying to enlist influences to aid him in keeping his business clerks in the nominal employ, & pay, of the U.S. Government, & thus retain the Consular Agency, especially the official medium of communication with the Chinese authorities, for his own personal ends, as intimated in my letter or dispatch No. 14, I feel it my duty to state that this morning's interview with Mr Williams has removed from my mind all doubt

as to the propriety & expediency of transferring the bulk or nearly all of the Chinese interpretation writing <sup>(from Swatow to Canton)</sup>, of correspondence with the Chinese authorities - reserving merely the power for the consular agent at Swatow to meet any pressing or urgent emergency.

That, however, will not suit the firm of Williams & Co., Swatow; whose chief object (besides having the Govt. help in paying salaries to two Chinese clerks), I believe, is to conduct the correspondence with the Chinese authorities upon matters affecting the business interests, facilities & property, of this firm; or as I stated - to keep the consular Agency as an appendage to its business outfit.

Very Respectfully  
Charles Seymour  
W. Co. Swatow



A copy of this dispatch will be  
immediately mailed to the U.S. Vice Consul  
General in Charge at Shanghai; as  
the original will go per steamer  
Gallia, sailing tomorrow from  
Hong Kong for San Francisco.  
C.S.



No. 16

*Deception*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*January 28<sup>th</sup> 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The Ng Chow Pillage & Assault.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Report of preliminary proceedings  
in regard to restitution of, or  
indemnity for, property destroyed;  
with particulars of outrages.  
Responsibility of any foreigners  
to see the ill Viceroy.*

No. 16.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Hon. Mr. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington - D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that, for some time past, I have been diligently & carefully investigating facts in regard to serious outrages perpetrated in October & November, 1882, at Ng Chow, in the "Kwang Si" Province, within this Consular District, & one of the two Provinces over which the Viceroy, "Tseng", in Canton, presides, and administers.

Briefly, the facts may be sketched, to enable you to understand it is a case that demands care & attention.

In 1865 the "Southern Baptists Convention"

having head-office at Richmond, Virginia, established a Chapel & Dispensary at Ngy Chow, about 230 miles from Canton. In 1871 the Chapel & Dispensary were pillaged & destroyed. Considerable correspondence occurred through the Consulate, without obtaining from the Chinese authorities any indemnity.

In April, 1882, the Baptist Chapel & Dispensary were re-established at Ngy Chow; and in October both were pillaged by two mobs of Chinese; & in the following month of November, 1882, a third mob demolished what was left of the two leased buildings occupied by the Baptists as Chapel & Dispensary at Ngy Chow; & also demolished a third building in which resided a Chinese widow, who owned, & leased to the Baptist Missionaries the two buildings, on a ten years' lease, for the Chapel & Dispensary.



In November, 1882, a fourth Chinese mob in N'gohow, violently assaulted the Baptist Missionary in charge of the chapel & Dispensaries in 1871/1882, Rev E. J. Simmons, a highly esteemed worthy colleague & co-laborer of the eminent veteran Missionary Rev Dr. A. P. Graves, for the past 28 years an honored custodian of Baptist interests at Canton.

The mob at N'gohow at the same time violently assaulted Rev H. L. <sup>now</sup> ~~Graves~~ (H. V. <sup>now</sup> ~~Graves~~), long & firmly known as a judicious & able American Presbyterian Missionary, & esteemed colleague & co-laborer of the celebrated Rev Dr. <sup>A.P.</sup> Happer, for the past third of a century, or more, in charge of the American Presbyterian Mission at Canton in Southern China.

Both of these Missionaries,  
 Reverends Simmons & Stages,  
 were accompanied by their  
 families, in house boats; &  
 all were in great peril from  
 showers of brick-bats & stones,  
 thrown at the two Missionaries,  
 & their boats, by a mob of a  
 thousand Chinese (instigated  
 & paid, it is believed, by the "gentry"  
 or Chinese "literati"), who tried to  
 prevent the escape of their victims.

And, both Simmons & Stages,  
 were at N'g Chow, under passports  
 issued at Peking, & bearing the  
 names of the American or U. S. Minister,  
 & high Chinese officials.

The Missionaries of <sup>several</sup> ~~all~~ denom-  
 inations & nationalities at Canton

took the matter earnestly; and united in an urgent request upon me to seek redress for grievances, that, if permitted to go on, will drive all Missionaries out of China; as similar or worse scenes have occurred in other parts of China, to the jeopardy & injury of French R.C. Missionaries, & American Missionaries.

The Viceroy at Canton has been continuing so ill, that neither of the four Admirals (French, British, Russian and American) who have visited Canton during this Winter, & none of the Consular Corps residing at Canton, have been able to get an interview for many months past, with that high Chinese official.

~~In the meantime~~ Some corrs.

has occurred between the Consulate  
and the Viceroy regarding the loss of  
the Baptist Mission at Nanking,  
and, in the meantime, while experi-  
encing the customary delay with  
which Chinese officials worry out  
foreign correspondents, I have,  
as stated, been gathering facts, which will  
be soon presented to the Viceroy, faithfully.

The object of this dispatch being to  
acquaint you of what has occurred,  
in order to meet any uneasiness that  
may be manifested in the United States  
regarding these outrages, through the cor-  
respondence of the Missionaries, who are im-  
patient to get matters properly righted.  
I hope to send you a further report  
of this case, which will receive the approval  
of the Department all concerned, I trust.

Copy of this dispatch  
goes direct to the U.S.  
Vice Consul General  
at Shanghai, to enable  
him to go per S. S. Gallic.

Very Respectfully Yours  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

*No 16<sup>bis</sup>*  
*ac. May 17/83*  
*Thurman*  
*No kept elements.*  
*Correction of No. 16*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*January 28<sup>th</sup> 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,*  
*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Correction of No. 16*  
*2.1.2*

SYNOPSIS.

*Request to substitute name of Rev*  
*H. V. Noyes for Rev H. Groves in third line*  
*of second paragraph of third written page*  
*of dispatch No 16.*

<sup>No 16</sup>  
Correction Supplementary.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Jan'y 26<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon. A. A. Addes

Third Asst. Sec'y of State  
Washington D.C.  
Sir

I respectfully request  
my dispatch No 16 dated Jan'y 26<sup>th</sup> 83  
may be corrected by substituting  
the name of Rev H. V. Noyes  
instead of Rev H. Graves in third  
line of second paragraph on  
third written page of my No 16,  
of this date.

Very Respectfully  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul





No. 17

no letter

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adce,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The Consular Agency at Swatow.

SYNOPSIS.

Fishery-interests of an American Citizen named William Ashmore jeopardized and impaired by Chinese trespassers, who claim the owner has not the protection or influence of U. S. Consular officers.

N<sup>o</sup> 14.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon. A. A. Odell

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D. C.  
Sir

I shall hereafter send  
my dispatches, as admonished by  
the U.S. Vice Consul General in charge,  
to the State Department, around  
via Shanghai, in accordance with  
"Rules and Regulations", although that  
process of correspondence between  
Washington and Canton is slower than  
backing a toad through a barrel of tar.

Having referred, in my dispatches,  
Nos 13, 14 & 15, to the Consular Agent  
at Swatow, I have the honor to state  
that the first transaction that

has come to my knowledge since the arrival of the Chinese correspondence of that Agency at this Consulate, seems to verify the intimations given to, and the suspicion or surmise expressed by me, that the Agency, and especially the Chinese branch of it, has been almost exclusively for the personal benefit of those connected with the Agency; that the interests of others, who were entitled to the friendly or protective influence of the U.S. Consul's Agency, have been treated with indifference, at least. A case in point occurs. William Ashmore, an American Citizen, who has, perhaps, the misfortune to be a missionary's brother, has a title, and undoubted membership of, fishery interests at

At Amoy Bay, near Swatow; on which he has paid taxes to the Chinese authorities regularly for the past ten years.

Frequent and repeated encroachments have been made upon his fishery-rights, until the owner (Ashmore) is threatened with the entire deprivation and loss of his property, by the aggressions of Chinese; who defy him to prevent them from doing whatever they please; and tell him, derisively, what he feels is the truth, that he has no support or protection from the US Consular Officers at Swatow.

I have, upon representation of certain facts in the case, asked

The Viceroy to notify the local authorities to prevent any further attempts to molest, disturb, or injure the interests of an American citizen named William Ashmore, residing at Swatow, in the property denied, until opportunity is given me to lay all of the facts of the case before the Viceroy.

In the meantime, those interested in continuing matters as they were at Swatow, even very desirous to have the Chinese correspondence immediately returned from the Consulate, even before it reached here.

I acquaint you with these particulars in connection with my Nos 13, 14 & 15. I have the honor to be,

Sir, Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

P.S. added on  
next page.

P.S.

I am persuaded, from what information has reached me, before and since my arrival in China, that the control of the correspondence, between the Consulates of the various Governments of the Western Hemisphere and the Chinese authorities, has often been of infinitely greater value, pecuniarily, than the salaries, emoluments, offers, combined, in the acquisition of privileges, and in disturbing or confirming titles to property & franchises, &c. &c.

L.S.





APR 2 1883

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb. 14 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Flags, and Dictionaries,  
and Dispatch-trine requested,  
for use of Consulate.

SYNOPSIS.

Request to be permitted to charge  
in account amount paid for a flag;  
and also request that, for use of the  
Chinese Interpreter and Writer, Dictionaries  
may be supplied by State Department.  
Also a supply of Dispatch-trine needed.

N<sup>o</sup> 18

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Feb<sup>y</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State

Washington D.C.

Sir.

In my N<sup>o</sup> 10, dated Dec 30/82, I made a request for some new flags; and as the Shanghai route of communication will necessarily involve many moons of delay in receiving a supply, if granted, I respectfully ask permission to charge the sum of eight dollars, in my account, some time during the year A.D. 1883, or whenever permission is received by the circuitous route over which it may come, for that sum paid to a Chinese tailor for an American flag for immediate use,

as the winds of New Year's Days (American and Chinese) demolished the old flag, beyond repairs.

I also respectfully make requisition, if within the compliance of the State Department, for the use of this Consulate; and especially for the purpose of facilitating correspondence between the Consulate and the Chinese authorities; a Copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary in English; and also a Copy of S. Wells Williams' Chinese <sup>English</sup> Dictionary, which is standard authority on the various dialects of China.

During the preparation of correspondence, involving the use of a wider vocabulary than (that)

that which is derived from the use of such obsolete and limited books as Dr Walker's English Dictionary, of the edition of 1861; and Prof Williams' Sino Dictionary, of the edition of 1856, the need of better English and Chinese Dictionaries was apparent.

The Interpreter of this Consulate, A. K. Chiu, for many years in the service of Chief Justice Smale, as Chinese Clerk in the Supreme Court at Hong Kong, enjoys the reputation of a man of unsullied character, with good abilities; and, although his hours of arrival and departure are such as to compel me to employ an extra Chinese man, who can assist in supplying interpretations for current business, when the Interpreter is not present, I desire to retain the present Interpreter,

as a trustworthy and desirable man.  
 These books are needed not only for  
 the Interpreter and Writer; but also to  
 aid the Chinaman upon whom I rely  
 constantly during the absence of the  
 Interpreter; or before & after his working hours.

A supply of tri-colored dispatch-  
 cord, such as tied in the corners of  
 these leaves, brought here by Consul  
 Scruggs, is nearly exhausted; and a  
 new supply is required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully Yours,

Charles Seymour  
 M. Consul



No. 19

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7-1883

See in  
June 28/83  
H. H. H. H.

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Quarterly Returns  
and Accounts.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing Vouchers  
for Miscellaneous Expenses;  
with Returns required by  
State Department

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor  
to hand you herewith Returns,  
and Accounts, with vouchers,  
for the Quarter ending March  
31<sup>st</sup> 1883, as per enclosures  
stated below, namely -

- 1<sup>st</sup> Digest of Invoice Book. State.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Arrivals & Departures of Am. Vessels. do.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Record of Notarial Services. do.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Summary of Consular Business. do.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Account of Miscellaneous Expenses  
in duplicate, with vouchers.

As there is nothing to report



under Forms Nos 121 and 137,  
they are omitted.

I am,

Sir,

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient-Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
M.C. Consul

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the *31<sup>st</sup>* day of *March* 188*3*

DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED	NATURE OF THE SERVICE	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION	REMARKS
<i>1883</i>				
<i>96 Jan 2</i>	<i>Deacon Ho</i>	<i>Furnishing Copy of Invoice</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>Certified true &amp; copy</i>
<i>99</i>	<i>" " Siemsen Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>94</i>	<i>" " Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>95</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>96</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>97</i>	<i>" 3 Thomas, Row &amp; Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>98</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>99</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>104</i>	<i>" 5 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>—</i>	<i>" 5 Earlworty Ho</i>	<i>Certifying &amp; Furnishing "Duplicate"</i>	<i>6 50</i>	<i>on 11/2 in London to Veraluz</i>
<i>105</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row &amp; Smith</i>	<i>Furnishing Copy Invoice</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>Certified true &amp; copy</i>
<i>106</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>107</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>108</i>	<i>" " Siemsen Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>110</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>112</i>	<i>" 12 Earlworty Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>113</i>	<i>" " Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>114</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>115</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>116</i>	<i>" 13 A. Dent Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>117</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row &amp; Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>118</i>	<i>" " Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>119</i>	<i>" 15 Thomas, Row &amp; Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>120</i>	<i>" 23 " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>121</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>122</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>123</i>	<i>" 26 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>124</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>125</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>126</i>	<i>" Thomas, Row &amp; Smith</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>127</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>128</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>129</i>	<i>" 31 A. Dent Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>130</i>	<i>" 5 Russell Ho</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>131</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>132</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>133</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>134</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>135</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>136</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>137</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>138</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>139</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>140</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>141</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>142</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>143</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>144</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>145</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>146</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>147</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>148</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>149</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>150</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>151</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>152</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>153</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>154</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>155</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>156</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>157</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>158</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>159</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>160</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>161</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>162</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>163</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>164</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>165</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>166</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>167</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>168</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>169</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>170</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>171</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>172</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>173</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>174</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>175</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>176</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>177</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>178</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>179</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>180</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>181</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>182</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>183</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>184</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>185</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>186</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>187</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>188</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>189</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>190</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>191</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>192</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>193</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>194</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>195</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>196</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>197</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>198</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>199</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>200</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>201</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>202</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>203</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>204</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>205</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>206</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>207</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>208</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>209</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>210</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>211</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>212</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>213</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>214</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>215</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>216</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>217</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>218</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>219</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>220</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>221</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>222</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>223</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>224</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>225</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>226</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>227</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>228</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>229</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>230</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>231</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>232</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>233</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>234</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>235</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>236</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>237</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>238</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>239</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>240</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>241</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>242</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>243</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>244</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>245</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>246</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>247</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>248</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>249</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>250</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>251</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>252</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>253</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>254</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>255</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>256</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>257</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>258</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>259</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>260</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>261</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>262</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>263</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>264</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>265</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>266</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>267</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>268</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>269</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>270</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>271</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>272</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>273</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>274</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>275</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>276</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>277</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>278</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>279</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>280</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>281</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>282</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>283</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>284</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>285</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>286</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>287</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>288</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>289</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>290</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>291</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>
<i>292</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>" " "</i>	<i>2 00</i>	<i>" " "</i>

## Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1882.

DATE		NATURE OF THE SERVICE.		AMOUNT PAID.		REMARKS.	
1883							
189	Feb 5	Thomas, Knott Smith	Furnishing Copy	74	00	Bought Forward	
170	"	"	"	2	00	Certified Land & Copy	
180	" 10	H. Dent Ho	"	2	00	"	"
188	" 17	Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"
189	"	Carlontz Ho	"	2	00	"	"
195	" 28	Thomas, Knott Smith	"	2	00	"	"
196	"	Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"
206	Mid 9	"	"	2	00	"	"
207	"	Carlontz Ho	"	2	00	"	"
208	" 10	Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"
209	"	Quitan Ho	"	2	00	"	"
211	"	Deacon Ho	"	2	00	"	"
212	"	H. Dent Ho	"	2	00	"	"
213	" 12	Thomas, Knott Smith	"	2	00	"	"
214	" 23	Russell Ho	"	2	00	"	"
216	" 24	H. Dent Ho	"	2	00	"	"
219	"	Deacon Ho	"	2	00	"	"
220	"	"	"	2	00	"	"
222	" 26	Thomas, Knott Smith	"	2	00	"	"
223	"	"	"	2	00	"	"
236	" 31	H. Dent Ho	"	2	00	"	"
238	"	Thomas Knott Smith	"	2	00	"	"
239	"	"	"	2	00	"	"
240	"	"	"	2	00	"	"
-	" 30	Russell Ho	Copy of Application to Vicar?	15	50		
			for wharf extension	1	50		

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form No. 103.

Summary of business at the United States Consulate at Canton during  
the Quarter ended *March 31<sup>st</sup> 1883*

Movement of Vessels.

Vessels in Port from last Quarter:

*one, American Barque "John D. Brewer"*

Vessels arriving during present Quarter:

Vessels departing:

*one, American Barque "John D. Brewer"*

Vessels remaining in Port:

Tonnage arriving:

Tonnage departing:

*962*

*Reported in receipt of Treasury*  
Fees received, \$*16.62* viz: Certificate Discharge 4 Seamen - \$4.00; Deposit Shippers \$1.00;  
Tonnage \$9.62; Port Clearance \$2.00  
Expenses, including Salary, \$

Movement of Seamen.

Seamen in Port from last Quarter:

*Crew of "John D. Brewer"*

Seamen arriving:

Seamen shipped:

Seamen died:

Seamen discharged:

*Four*

Seamen deserted:

Seamen departed:

*Crew of American Barque "John D. Brewer"*

Seamen in Port:

Synopsis of Seamen's Account.

Balance from previous Quarter:

\$ Dr. \$ Cr.

Received for Extra Wages:

*Eighteen Dollars = \$18.00*

Expended for Seamen:

*Credited in Quarterly account current*

Balance:

*and applied on S. 2nd pay.*

*[Large wavy signature]*

Consulate of the United States,

at Canton, *March 31<sup>st</sup> 1883*

*Charles Heymond*  
*Consul*

U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL  
APR 18 1883  
No. 27  
JUN 7 1883  
RECEIVED  
D. Stclair  
Use June 7 1883  
The man

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Enclosing Return, and  
Accounts from Consular  
Agency at Swatow

SYNOPSIS.

N<sup>o</sup>. 20

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 7<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon A.A. Ades

Third Dist. Sect of State

Washington

Sir

I have the honor  
to hand you herewith returned  
accounts from U.S. Consular  
Agency at Swatow for Quarter  
ending March 31<sup>st</sup> 1883,  
as per enclosed stated below.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Arrival & Departure of American Vessels. *etc.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Detailed List of Seamen shipped &c *etc.*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Record of Treasures Fees. *etc.*
- 4<sup>th</sup> Account with U.S. Govt. *etc.*

I am, Sir,

Very Truly Yours,

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

[Form No. 15.]

DETAILED LIST OF SEAMEN OR MARINERS Shipped, Discharged, or Deceased, at the Consulate of the  
United States, at *Swatow*, from *1<sup>st</sup> January* to *31<sup>st</sup> March 1883*  
and the payments made on account of each.

Charge, or Deceased.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Discharged.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Shipped.	Names of Seamen or Mariners Deceased.	To what Vessel belonging.	Amount of Payments made.	
					DOLLARS.	CENTS.
ing 17.	<i>Aguida Motuchi</i>			<i>Almatia</i>		
"	<i>Kotaki</i>			"		
"	<i>Okawal Kikuyinio</i>			"		
"	<i>Takata</i>			"		
"	<i>Nagardisaburo.</i>			"		
"	<i>Elar Hadahis</i>			"		
"	<i>Sau.</i>			"		
"	<i>Tow.</i>			"		
22.	<i>Ah Suang.</i>			"		
"	<i>Ah Tung.</i>			"		
23.		<i>Mo Ah Suang.</i>		"		
"		<i>Coah Ah Yean.</i>		"		
29		<i>Guanmolo.</i>		"		
"		<i>Yee do Kuei.</i>		"		
"		<i>Kotaki</i>		"		
"		<i>Mododentki.</i>		"		
"		<i>Smizu</i>		"		
"		<i>Okama bardodami.</i>		"		
"		<i>Taka Miki.</i>		"		
"		<i>Nagidesauero</i>		"		
"	<i>H. Kelqui</i>			"		
"		<i>H. Kelqui.</i>		"		
31		<i>Ah Kungatod.</i>		"		

*Wm Jones*  
*U. S. Consul at Swatow*







W. C. Claiborne

*file*  
United States Consul at London.  
April 20<sup>th</sup> 1883.

W. C. Claiborne to the Department of State.

Correction of misdirection of remittance  
of sum of subscriptions to the Garfield  
Memorial Hospital Fund, account-  
ed for in Account of Contingent ex-  
penses of the Third Quarter of  
1882: And advising draft N<sup>o</sup> 4.  
for \$105. Gold.

United States Consulate  
Canton April 20th 1883

Wm A. Alder, Esquire  
Third Assistant Secretary of State  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, in compliance with the instructions of the Hon. the Comptroller of the Treasury of the 17th February, I have this day drawn my N<sup>o</sup> 4, of \$1500, upon the Honorable The Secretary of State in favor of the Hon. James McMillan, Treasurer of the Garfield Memorial Hospital Fund, for \$105.00, say One hundred five Dollars and no cents: Being a retransfer of that sum in correction of its misdirection in the rendering of my Account of Contingent Expenses for the third Quarter of 1882.

Respectfully apologizing for the trouble thus caused,

I am, Sir,

Yours obedient servant

Wm. A. Alder  
Vice Consul at Canton



*L. F. Clair*

*No. 21.*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*April 25<sup>th</sup> 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Acknowledging Nos 11 & 12  
from the  
State Department.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Reporting action on  
the subject matter  
of said No 11*

No. 21.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1883

Saml. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.  
Sir

I have the honor to  
acknowledge having this day  
received dispatches Nos 11 & 12  
from the State Department.  
As to No. 11, dated 2<sup>nd</sup>  
ultimo, I have availed myself  
of the earliest possible op-  
portunity to acquaint the  
U.S. Consular Agent at Amoy  
of the decision of the State  
Department, disapproving  
of my proposed reduction

of the salaries of Interpreter and  
Chinese Writer at the Canton Agency.

Having, agreeably with  
the views expressed by Mr. Cheshire,  
M. T. Consul Genl. in charge; and  
information derived from M. Con-  
sular Agent Jones, at Amoy;  
rescinded the objectionable order, in time  
to prevent any injustice or inconve-  
nience, and to enable the Chinese clerks  
of Mr. Williams & Co, in Amoy, to  
draw their pay for their not very  
arduous official duties; I trust no  
serious injury to public or private  
interests resulted from my proposition  
to get rid of what seem to me unnecessary  
expenses, respecting which it appears  
I have no control.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servant  
Charles Seymour  
McLown



No. 22

McClain

we  
ordered  
June 1883  
H. H. H.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14. 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Requisition for Supplies, &c.

SYNOPSIS.

Blank Drafts nearly exhausted.

Dispatch paper wanted in few months.

Tri-colored silk Cord wanted for dispatch.

N<sup>o</sup> 22.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14 1883

Gen A. A. Ades

Third Assistant Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to make  
request for a supply of blank drafts,  
which will be exhausted in closing  
accounts for the present quarter.

Also please send a supply of  
dispatch paper in about equal quan-  
tities of the two widths of ruling - Send  
viz: of same width between lines as this  
sheet; and of same width as sample  
enclosed. Our present supply will last six months.  
The thin "foolscap" paper can be found here.

Roll of two-colored silk cord for dis-  
patches, as per sample enclosed is desired.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
U. S. Consul





No. 23

*By Hand*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 14 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Conditional leave of absence for sixty days.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Arrangement with Vice Consul Nye  
respecting absence, if authorized by  
the State Department.*

No. 23.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 14. 1883

Hon. A. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec. of State

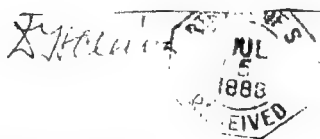
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that one of the first acts of my consulship was to enter into a friendly arrangement with my venerable predecessor, Sidney Nye, Esquire, who is duly commissioned as U. S. Vice Consul, at Canton, whither he came, in 1833, (50 years ago) from Massachusetts. It is my desire to have him retain that position while I am Consul, as he is a gentleman who is held in high esteem by all who know his career; his large experience is a valuable resource. At one period of his residence in China he was extensively engaged in Commerce; and in the dark days of the Civil (or Mexican) War in "U. S. A." he faithfully & patriotically espoused the Union Cause when friends were scarce in these regions. My arrangement is this; and I respectfully ask if it has your approval.

I pay Mr Nye three hundred dollars per annum (besides some other mutually satisfactory reciprocal favors) for the privilege of having his services at the U.S. Consulate as U.S. Vice Consul for sixty business days in each year, if those services are required, or not; but the arrangement contemplates or provides for a vacation, or leave of absence, whether I avail myself of it or not, for sixty days per year. We have also stipulated that if, at any time, a longer leave of absence might be granted, he shall serve as Vice Consul for me, or in my stead, at five dollars per day. I am not at all certain that I shall require any such "leave" or vacation this year of 1889; but, as I have passed my life in Latitude 45°, it is possible the prolonged heat of this climate & country & localities may make such absence or vacation a necessity; in which event, in the last half of this year, I would be thankful for "leave", for sixty days or so.

I am, Sir, Yours obedient servant  
 Charles Leonard  
 U.S. Consul



No. 24

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 18 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adce,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

The new U. S. Tariff Law.

SYNOPSIS.

Many important changes  
regarding Invoices of Goods,  
upon which Consuls need  
authentic information.

N<sup>o</sup> 24

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

United States Consulate, C. 1883

May 18-78.

FROM

Charles Lewis  
and Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir.

The new U.S.  
Tariff Law, published in various forms  
in American and English newspapers,  
for the benefit of those persons who  
are engaged in Commerce, having been  
more or less in circulation among  
business men in China, while it  
is desirable that the Consulates  
should be in possession of full  
and authentic information as to  
business requiring Consular attention;  
I should respectfully request

that an accurate copy of the  
new Law may be sent soon.

It is desired <sup>to get a copy</sup>  
for reference <sup>Consulate, Canton, China.</sup> 18. 11. 1883  
signature.

While in <sup>the</sup> <sup>may</sup>  
not wholly go into <sup>the</sup> <sup>until</sup>  
until the beginning of the new fiscal  
year; one of its important provisions  
seems to have taken effect when  
the President signed the Law in March.

Section 3, almost immediately following  
the "Free List," near the end of the new Law,  
if correctly printed, repealed, on the 3rd  
of March 1883, Section 2907 of the  
U. S. Revised Statutes; which included  
many items under head of "Charges," as  
forming a portion of the dutiable value of  
invoiced Mfg. There may be other points  
on which Consuls need authentic information.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir, Your obedient servant  
Charles Seymour  
McCombie



No. 25

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 16-1883

*576 C. with these  
cc - copy  
July 11/83  
Herman*

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Chinese Shippers.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Combined efforts of the  
Canton & Hong Kong  
Consulates fail to discover  
actual ownership of Chinese ships,  
owing to Chinese concealment.*

NY 100-100000

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 18-1883

Hon. S. D. Lee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir.

I have the honor to inform you that the best efforts of the Canton and Hong Kong Consulates to discover the actual residence of Chinese shippers of Opium to the United States, and the real ownership of the Opium shipped, have thus far failed, through the successful and persistent concealment of these affairs from public inspection.

Col Mosby sent hither this



very discerning Chinese Interpreter, with a list of shippers in whose names invoices are certified at Hong Kong. My Interpreter, or the Interpreter of this Consulate, and myself, separately and together, co-operating with the Hong Kong Interpreter, found it impossible to trace out the owners.

The Custom House Officials here, (in the ~~provincial~~ Customs) say the Chinese merchants resort to so many aliases and fictitious names that it is utterly impossible to keep any trace of them. The transportation Companies are similarly baffled.

One of the difficulties is that large establishments are carried on, some fancy title, such as "Vochou" or "Ou-long", or "Po Hing", or "Fow Loong" - the latter meaning "Plentiful Prosperity", with unknown numbers of partners. So, the only way is to have the Custom House Officials in U.S. vigilant as to appraisal; regardless of invoiced value, until the Chinese shippers who generally live in Canton, where the idiz is produced & sold, shall do as the European & American merchant-shippers do, & certify at Canton.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul



*Instructions to Mr. Young*  
*No. 20*  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 18<sup>th</sup> 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The Ng Chow Outrages,  
and Missionary troubles.*

SYNOPSIS.

*The Case, with Copies of English and  
Chinese Correspondence, and full partic-  
ulars, sent, 18<sup>th</sup> inst, to the H. L. Minister.  
Essential facts enclosed.  
Chinese Officials delay, without  
valid defense, or excuse.*

No. 25

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 16. 1883

Genl. A. A. Idee

Third Asst. Secy of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to state that yesterday I sent to the U. S. Minister at Peking the Case of the "Nykchow Outrages" of October and November 1882, with copies of English and Chinese correspondence, and full particulars.

Essential facts are set forth in the enclosed copy of a lengthy communication to the Viceroy, which is sent in the most compact and convenient form, as I had no time

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to make more than one copy in writing, which I sent to the Viceroy; and had no assistance requisite for writing out copies for the records, for the Department, for the Legation, and for the parties immediately interested in the results of this test case, which is being watched with deep interest by the European and American Missionaries of various denominations; to whom, at the proper time, with your concurrence, the essential facts might be communicated, considering the nature of the call upon this Consulate, & publicity of their proceedings.

There are interesting times for the Missionaries in Southern China; and they feel that their interests  
(and.)

( 3 )

and safety have long been treated with indifference by Diplomatic & Consular Officers of all Nations:

Numerous dispatches have passed back and forth between this Consulate and the Viceroy, respecting these and other outrages against American citizens, who are identified with Missions; but the persistent efforts of the Chinese Officials to worry out all applicants for redress of wrongs, must not be allowed to prevent an honorable adjustment of this flagrant violation of Treaty stipulations.

The continued feebleness of the Acting Viceroy, "Tseng", prevents him from performing official duties; & from having interviews with the official representatives of foreign Nations.

In the meantime, throughout these two Provinces, malignant hatreds of foreigners, led by the intolerant Gentlemen,

4

and shielded by unscrupulous officials, are troublesome.

Inflammatory placards, issued in the name of the Gentry, inciting the populace to acts of violence against foreigners and Christians, usually precede outrages.

Proclamations issued by the local Magistrates, enjoining the people to abstain from violence, are quickly extinguished.

During my sojourn here, I have had my hands full of business of this nature; and shall endeavor to meet all just requirements to the best of my humble ability.

The Canton correspondent of the China Mail, published at Hong Kong, is an English Wesleyan Missionary, Rev. Frederic J. Martens, in a communication, of which copies in duplicate are enclosed, he has given expression to

the views of the Missionaries,  
generally.

There is no doubt  
that Sir Thomas Wade, the  
British Minister at Peking,  
who has just retired, very  
quietly and firmly left  
the English Missionaries to  
get out of their troubles the  
best they could; and as for the  
French Missionaries, they  
are held responsible by  
the Protestant Missionaries  
for much of the trouble that  
overtakes Missions in China;  
because of the impression among  
Chinese Officials and Gentlemen  
that temporal affairs receive  
undue attention at the hands  
of the P.C. Missionaries.

As far as one can get at  
the facts, no Chinese have  
ever had occasion to com-  
plain of imprudent or  
troublesome interference outside duty,  
on the part of American Missionaries.

67

Although it is an exceedingly delicate matter to refer to in an official dispatch the fact ought not to be suppressed that much of the indifference, or lack of kindness, that is prevalent in "the East," in regard to the unselfish and self-denying labors of the missionaries, is attributable to the absence of sound domestic relations, and the prevalence of immorality in the social arrangements, of the "foreign communities"; between whose customs, and the higher philosophy of Christian enlightenment, aimed at and promulgated by missionaries, there is, and can be, little or no practical sympathy or co-operation.

I dare not be more explicit, and cannot say less in truth.

The Missionaries, however, in "the East" have silently, patiently, and bravely struggled against this adverse current of influence, and should no longer suffer for their vocation.



7  
 Believing and hoping that  
 this "Ng Chow Outrages" case  
 will receive the best attention  
 of the Legation, and Depart-  
 ment; and that the Chinese  
 officials, with no valid defense,  
 will not be allowed to indefinitely  
 postpone action upon, and  
 adjournment of a matter,  
 which they are trying to  
 shake off under the plea  
 of "requiring further information  
 and reports."

I am, Sir,  
 Very Respectfully,  
 Your obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
 U.S. Consul

Two Enclosures in Two Envelopes  
 viz

2 Copies of Statements of "Ng Chow Outrages".  
 2 Copies of China Mail Correspondence.

## THE OUTRAGES AT NG CHOW, SOUTHERN CHINA.

TO THE U. S. CONSUL, CANTON, CHINA.

SIR,

I have the honor to ask your attention to the enclosed statement, representing the opinions of the Protestant Missionaries in Canton, in regard to the recent attack on two of their number, Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, by the Chinese at Ng Chow, and the destruction of property belonging to the Baptist Mission at that place.

I am, Sir, Yours Very Truly,

LONDON MISSION, CANTON, December, 21st 1882.

(Signed)

THOMAS W. PEARCE.

### STATEMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF MISSIONARIES.

At a meeting of Missionaries held at the house of Dr. KERR, in Canton, on Monday, December, 18th, 1882, in regard to the steps that are proper to be taken in the matter of a recent attack upon Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, at Ng Chow Fu, in Kwang Sai Province, Southern China, the following statements and conclusions were unanimously arrived at, after having read and fully considered the facts of the case.

Whereas, on the 15th and 16th of October last an unprovoked attack was made on the premises of the Baptist Mission, accompanied by wanton destruction of property; and, on the 29th of November last, Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES were assaulted by a hired mob, to the endangering of their personal safety; we are of the opinion—

1.—That according to the terms of the Treaty, and instructions recently received from the Honorable C. HOLCOMB, then U. S. Minister, at Peking, these brethren have full right to the protection of their persons, and that an apology should be demanded from the Chinese Government for the insult offered to them by a riotous mob.

2.—That the claim for indemnity for loss of property should be vigorously prosecuted.

3.—From the fact that the Missionaries were received in a friendly manner by the populace; and sold many books among them without opposition; and that several placards, inciting the people against foreigners, have been put out by the Gentry; we are of the opinion that the mob was instigated by the Gentry; and was in no way an expression of popular opposition to Christianity.

We would therefore request the U. S. Consul to call the attention of the Viceroy to the fact; and urge him to take means to reprimand the Gentry of Ng Chow for the violation of the Treaty.

The Undersigned fully concur in these views.

Canton, 20th December, 1882.

(Signed).

G. Hargreaves, C. Bone, Frederic J. Masters, William Bridie, Samuel George Tope, and Charles Wenyon; of the English Wesleyan Missions.

A. P. Happer, J. G. Kerr, B. C. Henry, H. Noyes, E. M. Butler, A. A. Fulton, and M. W. Niles; of the American Presbyterian Missions.

R. H. Graves, E. Z. Simmons, and S. E. Stein; of the American Southern-Baptist Missions.

John Grundy; of the English Church Missions.

Thomas W. Pearce, and E. R. Eichler; of the London Missions.

F. Hubrig, and Franc Jentzsch; of the Berlin Missions.

### CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CANTON, CHINA,

February, 16th 1883.

To His Excellency,

TSENG.

ACTING VICEROY OF THE TWO QUANGS,  
CANTON.

SIR,

A considerate regard for your health; and a sincere desire for its recovery; and also a hope that the information you were expected to receive from the authorities at Ng Chow in regard to the atrocities, pillage, sacrilege, violence and vandalism, perpetrated at that place, against some peaceable, unoffending, and law-abiding citizens of the United States of America, by a hired mob, might be obtained and produced by you, as intimated in your letters addressed to this Consulate as long ago as October 28th, and November 1st, 1882; might be urged as my reasons for delaying to ask your immediate attention to the adjustment of a matter, which, as an act of justice to the good name of the Government and Nation you have long had the honor to represent, should no longer remain unsettled.

Your Excellency's communication of the 19th of January, 1883, (regretting your inability to receive the Admiral) warns me that the present condition of your health may make it necessary for me to transfer this deplorable transaction to other and higher officials of our respective Governments; unless you can have the actual facts in the case promptly, fairly, justly, and honorably acted upon, either by yourself, or by those under your authority.

By a recent mail from America, published judicial proceedings were received, in regard to the arrest, trial, conviction, sentence, and imprisonment, of two American or European sailors, within one week after they committed the crimes of robbing and maltreating two Chinese laundry-men in the City of New York; from whom less than fifty dollars was taken by the robbers.

One of those robbers entered upon his term of five years, and the other upon his term of fifteen years' imprisonment; while here in China, in one of the Provinces over which presides a Viceroy, whose large experience in public affairs, and whose high personal and official character, should enable him to act without hesitation or restraint, in the interests of justice and honor, American citizens, holding passports issued at Peking, and duly authenticated by high officials of the two (Chinese and American) Governments, were pelted and stoned by a Chinese mob, at Ng Chow on the 29th of November, 1882; after the property was looted, and the property leased, and lawfully occupied by one or more of them and their friends, had been pillaged and destroyed; without any action on the part of the Chinese authorities during several succeeding moons, except procrastination, under the plea of seeking further information.

Having thus presented to Your Excellency's consideration the property features of the outrages in Ng Chow; I now respectfully call your attention to the cruel, unjustifiable, and atrocious assault, by a Chinese mob at that place, on the 29th of November, 1882; when about one thousand lawless persons (alleged to have been hired and paid by the Gentry) incited by inflammatory placards against foreigners and missionaries violently and wickedly assaulted, with brick-bats, stones, and other missiles, two highly respected and justly esteemed American citizens; Reverend E. Z. SIMMONS, Baptist Missionary; and Reverend H. V. NOYES, Presbyterian Missionary; both of whom "peaceably attending to their affairs," were bearers of passports, issued by the Legation of the United States of America at Peking; and duly authenticated by Your Excellency, as Acting Viceroy of the Two Quangs—thus showing that the Ng Chow Gentry and mob not only disregarded American passports, and abused American citizens; but also treated Your Excellency's authority with censurable contempt.

Furthermore, Mr. SIMMONS was also bearer of a respectful, introductory, and commendatory communication, from this Consulate to His Honor, Tsea, at that time the Acting Magistrate in Ng Chow; who shared in the indignities at the hands of the turbulent mob, in having issued a Proclamation enjoining toleration and courtesy toward foreigners and missionaries; and for entertaining the proposition or idea of making restitution of, or reparation for, the property destroyed in October, 1882, which he had promised to do in the presence of witnesses. When neither American citizens with passports, or a Chinese Magistrate who would protect them from harm, can be allowed at that place, it becomes necessary to invoke the power of the Chinese Government for the enforcement of treaty stipulations. So highly are Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES esteemed by the excellent missionaries of their own and other nationalities and denominations, that their united request, in writing, upon me, to earnestly and faithfully seek redress for the outrages perpetrated by the Ng Chow mobs, leaves no possibility to doubt that any refusal to make just reparation for, and restitution of, the property destroyed and pillaged; or any neglect of the Chinese authorities to bring the guilty outlaws and their abettors to merited punishment; and any failure to apologize to these two American citizens, Messrs. NOYES and SIMMONS, and their respected families, who were jeopardized and persecuted by the Ng Chow mob with stones and brick-bats, will be regarded by all civilized Nations as flagrant violations of treaty obligations; and wanton disregard of the mandates of honor and humanity.

Not only did the mob pursue, with dangerous missiles, those two unoffending American citizens, in Ng Chow; who held passports duly authenticated by Your Excellency; but the two house-boats, in which were the wives and families of Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES, were broken by the blows of projectiles thrown by the mob; and efforts were made to prevent the escape of the assaulted Americans by obstructing the passage of their boats into the river, after numerous stones and brick-bats had made it impossible to remain on shore.

Mr. NOYES' appeal to Chinese soldiers who witnessed these violent acts with apparent satisfaction, were unavailing for protection from the mob.

These are well authenticated facts, which I have verified beyond all question or doubt. Specimens of the brick-bats thrown into the boats occupied by the families of these American citizens are now in Canton; and if this case cannot be adjusted here; it may, perhaps, open the eyes of the American and European Nations to the manner of treaty observance in China, to see those dangerous Ng Chow greetings, that were accorded to citizens of a friendly Nation under passports and treaties.

The people, generally, at Ng Chow, treated the American missionaries and their Chinese co-laborers kindly; and, even, throughout the day on which Messrs. SIMMONS and NOYES were so violently assaulted by a hired mob; the people, at large, received these Americans everywhere pleasantly; and freely dealt with them; and purchased books and reading matter upon mutually satisfactory terms; but at Ng Chow, as elsewhere, the chief difficulty has been on account of the prejudices and conspiracies of the Gentry, or the more educated class who have incited the populace to, and are believed to have paid the rabble for, violent acts of persecution against American missionaries and their Chinese co-laborers.

"Leong Lau Shi," the owner of the buildings destroyed, says that her domicile was finally pillaged and completely demolished on November 30th 1882, by the Gentry of Ng Chow, and men of official rank, in company with Tao soldiers. This accords with the testimony of Mr. NOYES and Mr. SIMMONS, as to the conduct of the soldiers and Gentry on the previous day. This is to be regretted and explored, when in nearly all parts of the civilized world, educated men find so many points of agreement in the various systems of philosophy and religion; that even their disagreements are generously entertained and maintained according to their preferences and convictions, while conceding to one another the courtesy and right of private judgment; or the exercise of free choice of principles, that do not injure the communities in which they live; or jeopardize the stability of established Governments, for the maintenance of law and order, personal security and public tranquility.

To this commendable and beneficent system of intellectual hospitality, which may be termed the tolerance of enlightenment, may largely be attributed the present and increasing strength and influence of Germany, Great Britain, France, the United States of America and some other Countries of the Western Hemisphere, in arts, literature, and commerce.

As well might a Nation, in these days of activity, progress, discovery, and development, attempt to bar the windows of Heaven and shut out the light of the Sun; as to erect barriers against the illuminating power and genial influence of the intellectual forces of the World, in this remarkable era of progressive civilization and inter-national intercourse.

Your Excellency's honored namesake and distinguished relative, now creditably representing China at two influential Courts in Europe, has wisely appreciated, and recently set forth the importance and value of blending, with the lore and wisdom of the East, the knowledge and discoveries of the West; as recorded in his recent recommendation of educational institutions for China, in which should be combined the best systems of both Hemispheres.

What need of pressing further details upon Your Excellency's attention?

After waiting three months for promised information which it was hoped you would receive and communicate, as intimated in your letter of November 1st, 1882, in regard to the Ng Chow atrocities of October, 1882; and finding that instead of reparation, only further outrages were received by American citizens; it becomes necessary to bring these astounding and deplorable occurrences honestly and truthfully to your attention, by this letter, which has been delayed for verification of facts as detailed; and for improvement of your health.

Inasmuch as the entire Consular Corps at Canton; and the Admirals of France, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States of America, during their visits to this City, have, by reason of your prolonged illness, which is sincerely lamented, been unable to have audience with you, for a considerable time past; I avail myself of this opportunity to submit the Ng Chow outrages against American citizens to your consideration; with the hope that Your Excellency will promptly and honorably adjust these matters; and leave no distance anywhere as to the observance of good faith and friendly relations between China and the United States of America, in respect to "American citizens and Chinese converts" while "peaceably attending to their affairs" in China.

Sincerely hoping that the "Chinese New Year," upon which we have entered, may bring the re-establishment of Your Excellency's health; and increasing prosperity to China;

I am, Sir,

With the highest consideration,

Very Respectfully Yours,

CHARLES SEYMOUR,

Consul of the United States of America.

### THE VICEROY'S REPLY.

His Excellency, TSENG, the Viceroy of the Two Quangs, under date of February, 27th 1883, acknowledged the above communication; and he would direct the Prefect to cause the Magistrate of Ng Chow to issue Proclamation, strongly enjoining upon the Gentry to vigorously restrain their sons and brothers from causing any dispute or trouble with the Missionaries; with a view that peace might be maintained between natives and foreigners. The Viceroy also stated the Judge would be instructed to see that his instructions, shall be complied with; and furthermore he required the Prefect, Judge, and Magistrate that the Viceroy should be fully informed upon the occurrences at Ng Chow, preliminary to a settlement of the

(From our own Correspondent.)

The announcement of Sir Harry Parkes' appointment to Peking has given great satisfaction here. To those who have watched Sir Harry's career in the East, the prospect for Britishers in China is certainly more hopeful. He is not of "such stuff as dreams are made of;" too wide awake to be caught in the meshes of Chinese diplomacy; and two firm and rigid a character to be drawn through the sinuous passages of the Taung-li Yamén. It is to be hoped that the dawdling, vacillating policy of later years has come to an end, and that British interests will be henceforth guarded with a more vigilant eye, and Treaty law maintained with a stronger hand. It is to be hoped we shall have no more unwritten treaties forced upon us, with embarrassing restrictions as to purchasing property, and fictitious clauses regulating the issue of passports, but that the spirit and letter of the real treaty will be carried out in its integrity.

In this province matters are far from satisfactory. The Viceroy Tsing is a timid, irresolute, old man, always in feeble health and averse to severe measures. The attitude of the gentry and literati to foreigners is utterly insolent and defiant. Magistrates are afraid of them or else wink at their doings. The Consuls here have a hard time, and seem practically powerless. It is at Peking where the lever needs to be applied and the screw put on. The Shui Han affair in October last, where an English Medical Missionary was twice fired upon from a Chinese junk, has been very feebly dealt with. The Viceroy, under Consular pressure, took the matter up. The would-be assassin was traced to his village, beyond which no further effort was made to apprehend him, because of the lawless character of the villagers, whom it would be dangerous to meddle with. Such a plea as this is simply miserable.

Inflammatory placards breathing forth threatenings and slaughters against the foreigners have been posted up in various parts of the province, undoubtedly the productions of the gentry class. It is satisfactory to learn that several of the Consuls have brought these fire brands to the notice of the Chinese officials and proclamations have been issued forbidding such attempts to stir up mischief. It is notorious, however, that nothing ever comes of this proclamation plan. The only wholesome caution would be the capture of some of these ringleaders; but this is never done or attempted.

The United States Minister at Peking is evidently determined to stand no nonsense. Foreigners in South China who have suffered outrages at the hands of Chinese mobs will be glad to learn that the Rev. W. K. McKibben, of Swatow, who suffered from Chinese vandalism about a year and a half ago, has just had his full claim paid by the Chinese authorities—thanks to the Hon. John Russell Young, who took the matter

up and brought it to a just settlement. A  
gentleman who recently returned from  
Peking to Hongkong is authority for the  
statement that business of this nature has  
not been allowed to be pigeon-holed to  
death by the present American Minister.  
Bravo, Mr Russell Young!

It will be remembered that the European and American Missionaries of various denominations in Canton united last December in an urgent call upon the United States Consul at Canton to seek redress for the damages sustained by the American Baptist Mission in the pillage and destruction of their Chapel and dispensary at Ng Chau; and for the subsequent assault upon two American Missionaries, Messrs Simmons and Noyes, by a violent mob armed with stones and brickbats. It was requested that the matter should be taken up as a test case involving the rights of Missionaries and Missions under treaty regulations. Six months have passed and these troubles remain unsettled, as also does the case of a similar destruction of Mission property at Ng Chau twelve years ago! The general impression was that these outrages of October and November last would be dealt with on the old *laissez faire* principle. This, however, is not the case. Mr Consul Seymour is not the man to allow the case to suffer from neglect, and he deserves all praise for his steady and persistent efforts to get justice done. Enquiries as to the present condition of this important case and its probable results have elicited information that enables me to state that it is now receiving unremitting attention from Mr Seymour, and that owing to the prolonged illness of the Viceroy, the whole Ng Chau case will probably be transferred to Peking shortly for adjustment and settlement by the American Minister, who will no doubt deal with this affair with the same firm phand.

The late Hoppon Tsun, who used to be very fond of visiting Government House in Governor Hennessy's days, has come sadly to grief. According to the *Pekin Gazette* that official has been degraded three steps. Defalcations in his official accounts was only one item. "His curtain was thin and he repaired it not." (帷薄不修). In other words this High Officer had not ordered his household aright and his family life revealed misdeeds such as are not so much as named among Censors. One of the Censors who received enormous bribes from Tsun to keep silence has been dismissed from the Imperial service. Truly *facilis est discedens avariis*, but to retrace a step is a work and a labor.

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*No. 27 and sept 5/83.*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



*June 15-1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*AcK'g No. 14, Dated April  
20-1883, and Circulars.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Rent and Accounts.*

N<sup>o</sup> 87.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 15. 1883

~~Mr. A. A. A.~~

Chief Clerk, Dept. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch No. 14, dated 28. April 1883, which was evidently written under a misapprehension of facts, upon the examination of which, you will doubtless perceive, that, in suspending my account for contingent expenses, for the fourth quarter of 1882, under the impression that my charge and voucher for rent paid, \$350.00, for half year, from August 1882 to Feb<sup>r</sup> 1883, covered and included a month and a half of rent from Aug<sup>r</sup> 1882 to Sept. 30/82, paid by, and alluded to, my predecessor, Mr. A. A. A., you have done me injustice, by some one's stupidity.

2

An inspection of Mr. Nye's accounts, as rendered to the State Department and approved, shows that he paid, charges sent voucher for, and was allowed Eighty seven & <sup>50</sup>/<sub>100</sub> Dollars for "rent to August 15-1882 under old lease" as per voucher d. 2, rendered with a/c October 1882, for 1/4 year ending Sept. 30, 1882. And in his ~~rendered~~ on Oct. 30, 1882, as well as the foot of his 1/4 rendered to Sept. 30, 1882, Mr. Nye definitely mentioned that the rent would be due and payable semi-annually, Feb 15, 1883 and Aug 15, 1883, according to leases made by his predecessor and himself - Messrs. Simson & Co., of Canton, who had a lease of ten or more years from the owner of the building (residing in England) <sup>having</sup> ~~the~~ doublet or sub-land it to D. Carrow and Mr. Nye, insisting on old dates.

3

And, now, as the subject of "Rent" is under consideration, I may, perhaps, be permitted to acknowledge receipt of his Circular dated January 9<sup>th</sup> 1883, with an explanatory ditto of March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1883, "to prevent the misconstruction of the intention" of the former, on the theme of "Rent"; which, doubtless, has elicited many spirited dispatches from aggrieved Consuls, who feel they have just cause to remonstrate against what, with a full knowledge of the subject, as applied to Consular Service in Asia, must, I believe, be generally regarded as "hide-bound" policy, entirely injurious to public or national interests; and while curtailing the efficiency and usefulness of the Consulates, is exceedingly humiliating and discouraging to faithful Consuls, who are endeavoring to maintain the honor and good name of the Nation, in whose service they are laboring in countries which are so full of disadvantages to foreigners, that nearly all European governments fully recognize the propriety and expediency of enabling their Consular Officers to meet the exigencies of a tropical climate & social caste.



7/

In China, as in Japan, India, and other Eastern Countries, hotels and boarding-houses are so scarce and miserable, that respectable tourists, under the protection of letters of introduction and commendatory cards, are sheltered, fed, and lodged, in the private domicils of Europeans and American residents; who generously and kindly extend such entertainment and hospitality as they know will conduce to the safety and comfort of strangers in a strange land.

Every building is erected for a special purpose, for actual use and occupation; and an empty building would be so much wasted property. The business offices and domicils are together under one roof. The severity of heat for half of the year forbids exposure in going further thither to and from meals and business at points widely separated.

In Canton every business firm, having transactions that requires attention of the Consulate, resides on the European "reservation" or Island known as the "Shamoon", where the Consuls have the only means of <sup>access</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~existence~~.

The Canton Consulate had so long been a fatherless concern, that, instead of being in "good running order" for residents and non-residents, requiring consular attention, it had been passing from one temporary substitute to another; with such frequent changes, and without any appearance of responsibility or permanence, until those who required the protection of the Consulate found no matter of consequence involving American citizens' rights or interests, could be brought to completion or successful result; while the British, German, & other Consulates were vigorously maintained by their respective Governments; to the evident prejudice & hazard of American interests & honor.

During my sojourn here the Consulate has been open for business from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M., earlier or later if required.

If business results demonstrate  
 the value of a Vice Consulate,  
 and American citizens immediately  
 and personally interested in its effi-  
 ciency, mutually testify to the  
 soundness of its functions;  
 my justification will be established,  
 with or without the acknowledgements  
 of my Superior Officers.

Hence, in vacating the  
 old building occupied as Third  
 Consulate, and now occupied  
 as the French Consulate, I  
 assumed expenses considerably  
 in excess of my rent allowance  
 for the present Consulate;  
 as, in exchange for the old  
 building at a rental of eight  
 hundred and forty dollars per  
 year, I am paying an  
 additional bonus of two  
 hundred dollars to the present  
 owner of the building now occupied  
 as U.S. Consulate, besides incurring  
 other expenses to nearly \$200 more  
 for wire doors, panes, & other necessities

2

There is positively no other vacant, obtainable, or available, or suitable, or adequate building to be had at this time.

The French Consul, who occupies our former building, besides making the necessary repairs, is required to pay one thousand dollars rent per year after Aug 15/83.

The entire building now occupied as U.S. Consulate is devoted to no other purpose or business outside of the actual requirements of the Consulate.

Besides the necessities of the Consul, and of those who have business with the Consulate, it is absolutely necessary that the Chinese Interpreter, the Chinese Writer, the Chinese managers, and those who are in waiting for official papers, shall be comfortably accommodated during business hours.

If the Interpreter & the Writer have to go to their homes for meals and refreshments, little would be accomplished during the day.

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Furthermore, the State Department, in Red Book Regulations, prescribes formalities & courtesies to be observed on occasions of visiting the ships of the U.S. Navy; and also indicates exchange of courtesies between its Consular officers and those of other Nations; and also enjoins reciprocity & interchange of social amenities between U.S. Consuls and the local authorities, and officials of the country, to which the Consuls are accredited. The ordinary & reasonable demands of American visitors and tourists are of a nature that would be satisfied by a perusal of the horrible and disgraceful oath the Consul is required to take before his account for rent is allowed by the Government which expects hospitalities and courtesies worthy of gentlemen among gentlemen.

9

Apart from the debilitating influence of the prolonged and almost uninterrupted heat of the tropical climate upon European American residents, <sup>for the year,</sup> whose only safety is in the strict observance of all available sanitary aids and regulations, it will be found that even in the best constructed buildings, and even with the greatest care and cleanliness, it is impossible to keep one's wardrobe from moulding and spoiling with dampness; or to exclude from these peculiarly constructed & thoroughly mutilated buildings, enormous Centipedes, as long as this page is wide; huge spiders and tarantula, too large to be carried by a coffee sander; cock-roaches and beetles of great size and insatiable voraciousness, consuming books, boots, shoes, garments, or anything short of coarse plug-tobacco; lizards in great abundance; and worst of all, the invincible & invulnerable white-ants, which perforate boxes & trunks, & actually gnawed off a piece of your flag-staff, so that a stick of timber a foot in diameter had not the strength of a common walking stick. Vice Consul Nye, and myself, with the interpreter,

Recently had occasion to overhaul the  
 Archives of this Consulate for the discovery  
 of some valuable papers deposited with  
 the Consul a dozen years ago, involving title  
 to valuable property in Canton, that has been,  
 & is likely to be, subject of severe litigation;  
 and we found "the iron box" in which they were  
 placed for security, is as porous as a sieve, and  
 not so good as a second-hand sheet-iron  
 stove as a depository. Its contents were  
 much damaged and partially destroyed.  
 With this, I send for your inspection  
 a fly-leaf cut from the Consulate's  
 book entitled - "Register of American  
 Citizens", as a specimen of the condition  
 of some of your archives here.

The absurdity of strictly applying  
 to the Consulates in China, & especially  
 in Southern China, the same regulations  
 in regard to buildings, that are applied to the  
 Consulates in Europe and America,  
 must be obvious, if one will consider the  
 differences in the conditions under which  
 Consuls perform their official duties.  
 The State Department should be just to its  
 servants; and discriminate between Asia & Europe,  
 as to the regulations for their efficiency.

Every drop of water or drink, or used in cooking, and every pound of ice consumed, are brought a distance of ninety miles.

Beef and mutton, fit for the table of a civilized being, cannot be obtained from any point nearer than Shanghai, 800 miles north.

Nearly all of the canned food is brought from remote countries on the opposite side of the globe.

Meals at miserable hotels cost \$1.50 each.

Sleep cannot be obtained at any price, except by protection from voracious mosquitoes, & good circulation of air, which requires isolated buildings and high rooms.

The same room in a building may not be fit to occupy for more than a part of the day.

Persons seeking protection from the Consulate, and entitled to full and fair hearing, are always saved from the perplexity of stating their grievances in presence of Chinese or other attendants, or attaches, by using the best rooms of the Consulate, secluded from interference or interruption.

Hence the necessity for several ample rooms in the Consulate.



12

Of this entire establishment, even to my bed-room, and dining room, in both of which I am compelled to do considerable writing, is devoted to the Consulate; and to no other business.

Within a radius of six miles, it is estimated, there are one three millions of Chinese.

Within twelve miles of Canton, is a City named "Fat Chan", unknown to the Geographers and atlas-makers, with a population as large as that of Philadelphia. A dense & muddy population surrounds us.

About one third of a million of wretched people are floating in boats, up and down the river, day and night, passing within one hundred yards of the Consulates, and the business-places and domicils of European and American residents.

No man of common prudence would, for a moment, entertain the idea of leaving his premises or property here unoccupied, unprotected, or unguarded, against such a multitude of wretches, whose

13

necessaries would be their  
justification for pillaging the  
property of hated "foreign-devils".  
Now, in view of the facts,  
is it not clear that the State Depart-  
ment should promptly and justly  
recognize the peculiar conditions  
under which the U.S. Consuls exist  
and labor, especially in Southern  
China, and particularly in  
Canton; & exempt them  
from the operation of the "Rent  
Circulars" of January 9<sup>th</sup> and of  
March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1883, and the awful  
oath that was prescribed as  
the condition on which rent-accounts  
will be audited and allowed?

Some of the Consular families  
have already been distressed by these  
unwelcome documents; and other  
families of Consuls will also return  
to America, instead of contributing,  
by their presence and influence,  
to the usefulness, efficiency,  
and respectability of your Consulates.

14

When I broke up one of the best equipped homes in my estate, and brought my wife and daughter to Canton, it was my determination, as it has been my endeavor, to make this an efficient and creditable Consulate; but, in conformity with the policy indicated by the State Department, they will return this month to the U.S.

Hoping, as an act of common justice to the U.S. Consulates in China, that a fair consideration of the "rent question", by the light of elicited facts, may result in the modification, or withdrawal of the obnoxious rate and circulars; and assuring the State Department, that in a country where American and European comforts are not obtainable, due discrimination should be observed in the regulations for the Consulates;

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.



*Aug 15/83*



*No. 28*

*Lyell's*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Aug 16/883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Further Acknowledgment of,  
and reply to, No 14, of  
State Department;*

SYNOPSIS.

*As to Express at Boston  
Agency.*

No. 28

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 16<sup>th</sup> 1883

Mr. Schiller,

Kind attd. serv. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor, in further acknowledgment of, and reply to State Department's Despatch No. 14, dated April 25<sup>th</sup> 1883, to state that the amount rendered by the U.S. Consular Agency at Swatow for 1/4 of each Decr. Year, (during which only three dollars were there received for business and fees,) did seem to me so unreasonably large, that I wrote to the U.S. Consular Agent, and also to the State Department, as to the necessity of cutting down expenses at that Agency;

which I characterized as "a swindle",  
and "little short of robbery"; but the  
Frontier Official, & the Official  
of the U.S. Consulate flew  
around Luther Withers, Lyford  
Chaughin and Canton; and  
the U.S. Consul General Berkshire  
in charge, came to their rescue;  
and the State Department gave  
no attention to my dispatches  
Nos. 14 & 15; but disapproved  
of my proposed reduction of  
Expenses at Canton.

I thought then & think now,  
that American citizens and  
American interests have been  
sacrificed, wickedly & cruelly,  
at Omatow, under Williams' policy.  
I shall send your demand for expla-  
nation of account to the U. S. Consul at Pt.

I am, Sir, Very Truly,

Charles Seymour  
M. B. 1891



*ack*  
*Aug 15/83*

*No. 29*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Imm Co-483*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Atty Nos 15 + 16.  
and Dictionary*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 29.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 20<sup>th</sup> 1883

H<sup>r</sup>. A. A. Adda,

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State,

Washington D. C.

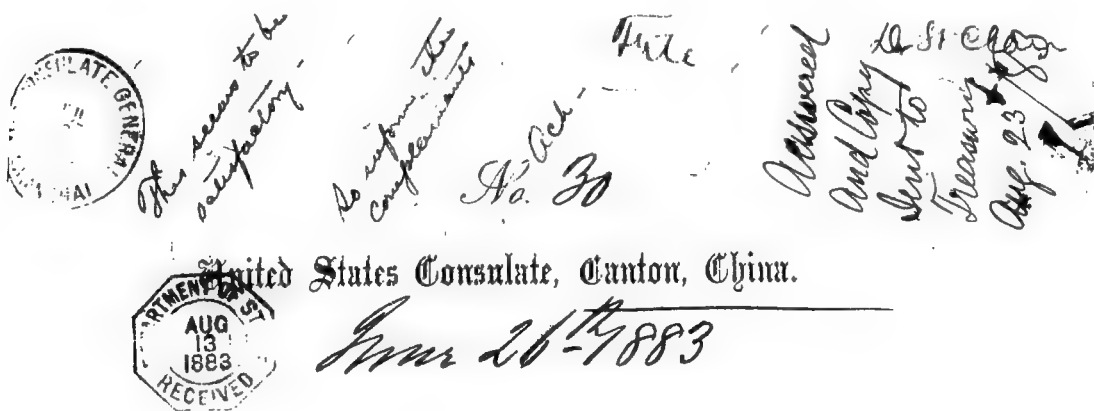
Sir—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department's dispatches Nos 15 and 16, of Apr<sup>24</sup>/83.

Thanks for No 16, and for the Webster's Dictionary, which has been received. William's Dictionary, as authorized, will be purchased at Shanghai. These two books will add much to the resources of the Consulate.

I am, Sir, Very Resp<sup>tly</sup>  
Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
W Council





United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Aug 26-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Acknowledging N. 17.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing explanations of  
Herr Carlowitz & Co. of Canton.

N<sup>o</sup>. 30

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 26<sup>th</sup> 1883

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Odce

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department's despatch N<sup>o</sup>. 17, dated May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1883; and to hand you enclosed statement of Messrs Carlowitz & Company, showing that the Consul's Certificate, N<sup>o</sup>. 189, of Services dated and certified February 17<sup>th</sup> 1883, was in quintuplicate; and that I received for the same, Consul's fee, Two Dollars and fifty cents; although Carlowitz & Co.

erroneously stated the amount differently  
in the Invoices; which they have already  
explained to the Consignees.

Hoping this will be deemed  
satisfactory explanation,

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
McConnel

Two Enclosures

viz:

Statement of Messrs Carlsmith & Co for State Dept.

" " " " " " Treasury Dept.

both dated 25 June 1883.

CANTON, 25<sup>th</sup> June 1883.

CARLOWITZ & Co.  
CANTON, HONGKONG,  
SHANGHAI.

The United States Consul at Canton, Mr. Chas. Seymour having this day called our attention to Consular Invoice No. 189 certified by him, on declaration of Mr. Chas. Bore of our firm, under date of 7<sup>th</sup> Feb'y 1883, we have much pleasure in stating that the Invoice was certified in a duplicate, for which we understood the Consul fee was Six Dollars fifty cent gold (\$6.50 gold), but the U.S. Consul received only Four Dollars fifty cent gold (\$4.50 gold) for this certificate, as we have already explained to the Consignees of the Merchandise.

Carlowitz & Co.

For State Department.



No. 31

Dec 10 1883



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Mar 27-1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Further Reply to No. 14.

SYNOPSIS.

Enclosing, as required, vouchers  
from U. S. Consular Agency at Swatow,  
for 1/4 yr ending Dec. 31-1882.

No. 31

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 27-1883

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Ades ,

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State ,

Washington D. C.

Sir -

I have the honor, in  
further acknowledgement of, and reply  
to, State Department's despatch N<sup>o</sup> 14,  
dated April 20<sup>th</sup> 1883, to hand you  
herewith, as required, vouchers in  
"Triplicate" and "Immeduplicate",  
from U. S. Consular Agent at Swatow,  
for the 1/4 yr. ending Dec<sup>r</sup>. 31<sup>st</sup> 1882;  
of which "original" and "duplicate"  
vouchers were received and trans-  
mitted with account as and when  
rendered. —————

Ed

It should be stated that the nearest Chinese Official with whom Consular Officers can communicate from Swatow is a long distance (I believe 15 miles) away; and this necessarily occasions expense and inconvenience.

The M. Consular Agency at Swatow now obtains its necessary supplies of Stationery &c from this Consulate.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul

Enclosures  
Account of M. Consul's Agent, with  
Vouchers in duplicate  
for 4<sup>th</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of 1882 as  
required by State Dept.,  
from Swatow Agency.

agf  
/m



*Mottawes*

*ac 00710/13*

*No. 32*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*July 14/1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Quarterly Account*

SYNOPSIS.

*Account, Vouchers & Returns.*



No. 32

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 14<sup>th</sup> 1883

Wm. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to hand you  
herewith Account, with Vouchers, for  
1/4 yr ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1883; and  
also enclose Aggregate Return of  
Official or Treasury Fees for fiscal  
year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1883,

I am, Sir, Very Resp<sup>t</sup>l,  
Yours Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
A. Consul

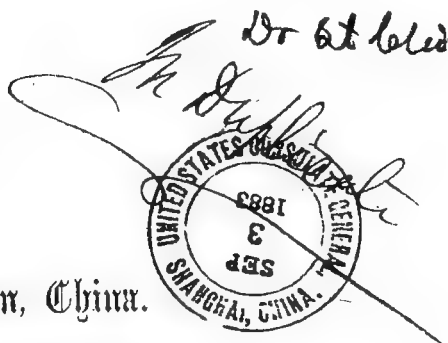
Enclosures

1/2 Rent Yillist Expenses }  
Aggregate Return Fees }  
Envelope with 10 Vouchers }  
Canton Summary }  
Santon Summary }  
Agd }  
Free }  
Agd }  
File }  
mm

*Very interesting*



*No. 33*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*July 31, 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adco,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Commerce.*

*Duplicate sent to Stat Sec.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Trade Memoranda.*

No. 33.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 31<sup>st</sup> 1883

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Rice,

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir—

I have the honor, in compliance with requirements of the Department of State, to make the following report on Commerce at Canton; at Ports where U. S. Consular Offices are established, in connection with, or under jurisdiction of, this Consulate; and in Southern China; with a general summary of the prominent features of business in the Coast, as affecting American interests.

2/

## Canton a Business Center.

Canton maintains its long established position and character, as the chief point of supply and distribution, of and for a large and populous portion of Southern China; notwithstanding the transfer of merchandise to and from the sea going vessels engaged in foreign trade, generally occurs at the British free port of Hong Kong.

These facts are partly made apparent by reference to statistics showing tonnage and value of merchandise, and the volume of business movements, to and from Canton, by fleets of steamers, regularly plying between this and other ports.

That these steamers do not embrace the large amount of merchandise conveyed between Canton and the sea coast

by native craft, known as the "Chinese junk", which are innumerable.

The extreme difficulty, or impossibility, of obtaining full and accurate trade returns in Southern China, will be appreciated, when it is understood, that, in the absence of any Custom House at Hong Kong, there is no date or record of the imports or exports at that principal sea-port for a coast of over a thousand miles in extent; and that the "Imperial Maritime Customs" at Canton have nothing whatever to do with the collection of duties on imports or exports that come on by "native craft," or the numberless Chinese junk; whose business is reported and transacted at and along the line of native Custom-houses, where tonnage-dues and duties are adjusted by and with native officials or contractors, who, by paying a certain sum per annum, for the revenues of a prescribed district, floundered discussions, conduct that business upon confidential terms.

There is positively no record of those transactions preserved from one day to another. The actual results of each day are pocketed, without any details for inspection.

The Imperial Maritime Customs Department is conducted throughout the Empire of China by salaried foreigners, at the head of whom is Sir Robert Hart, of England, with a salary of Fifty Thousand Dollars per annum. The Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, and entire staff of officials under him, are foreigners, among whom are several very competent, efficient, and highly esteemed Americans - the Commissioner for the Port of Canton, being a New Yorker, and graduate of Yale College; while one of the two Assistant Commissioners in the Imperial Maritime Customs at Canton is a native of Massachusetts, and graduate of Williams College; - his Associate Commissioner being a Parisian; as was his predecessor, recently transferred to Shanghai.

The collection of the uniform duty of five per cent ad valorem (or its equivalent) on imports and exports, being thus entrusted to a judiciously selected and thoroughly trained Corps of well-paid foreigners, whose transactions are conducted and recorded in a business-like manner, the Chinese Government derives the legitimate revenue from the business entrusted to the Imperial Maritime Customs Department; in which, like all other branches of public service in China, strict rules are observed in regard to continuance and promotion of officials, with retirement and pension after a certain period.

Where the conditions of transportation favor the employment of large fleets of native boats, <sup>as is the case between Shanghai and Hong Kong</sup>, the Chinese Government has found it more satisfactory, in point of revenue, to "farm out" the collection of duties on merchandise conveyed by junks and other native craft, to contractors, who thus become unsalaried detectives to prevent smuggling.

Those who are inclined to laugh at this double-barrelled arrangement for

collection of revenue should take a second look at the Chinese plan, which, while indicating unlimited confidence in foreign officials, makes the native branch of the revenue system not only self-supporting and remunerative, but actually free from expense for a force of detectives who make smuggling a hazardous business.

It is so unlike the revenue systems of other countries, that these facts should be taken into consideration, when discrepancies in statements appear from comparison of what are sometimes approximate estimates, instead of reliable records, and authentic returns.

Those who have attempted to investigate closely into personal or official affairs of the Chinese, and especially into the privacies of their business operations, have found that their ability to maintain secrecy is unlimited.



## Commercial Features and Items.

In the following commercial items of Canton, the imports and exports of "treasure" are not included, and no mention is made of the imports and exports by Chinese junks or other native vessels or craft; respecting which, no appropriate or accurate estimate can be made as to their number, or aggregate of tonnage employed; although of sufficient magnitude to give employment to many thousands of navigators; and of enough value and importance, to justify each vessel in carrying from six to twenty loaded cannon, to guard cargo from river-pirates.

Precautions of a similar nature is observed on all of the river steamers, between Canton and the two ports of Hong Kong and Macao, the officers being thoroughly armed and resolute; and the first-class passenger saloons being well equipped with pistols, cutlasses, and other efficient weapons, to guard against any attempts to capture vessel or cargo. Armed guards are constantly on duty.

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All imports and exports per steamers between Canton and Hong Kong are entered at the Custom House in Canton as coming from or going to Great Britain, or a British port, for the uniform import or export duty of five per cent, or its appropriate equivalent; the classification of imports and exports, according to the various nationalities concerned, is beyond human reach.

All merchandise, including cotton and woollen goods, imported, appear in the Custom House tables by specified numbers of pieces and weights, with aggregate values, without reference to yards or measurements.

Comparing returns of imports and exports for several successive years, there seems to be an absence of marked fluctuations, or increase and decrease, in the various items of commerce; although, available ~~indication~~ statistics indicate a steady growth of Chinese manufactures.

It seems to be the aim or purpose, if not the policy, of the Chinese, to give employment to their people, and to develop a national condition of self-reliance, & thorough independence, as to a supply of articles

of security & comfort; as will appear by an inspection of the range and diversity of skilled labor in Canton, and other Chinese Cities; and by an examination of the leading items of import and export. 9

No man, with a business eye in his head, can go through the streets of Canton, without being profoundly impressed by the variety and multiplicity of its industries.

Inspections of Chinese Merchants' stocks of merchandise reveal the fact that British, American, and other foreign manufactures, are kept indiscriminately, for sale; and while the larger portion of such foreign supplies come from England, neither seller or buyer seems to know or care where they came from, or whither they go.

Little distinction is made by Chinese between American, Britons, Germans, Frenchmen, Russians, Scandinavians, Italians, Spaniards, or the various nationalities of the Western Hemisphere, except the Portuguese, who are special objects of Chinese hatred, on account of the loss of Macao; and there is less discrimination observed in regard to their respective productions.

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Forgers are "barbarians"; whose  
works are slowly bought, but quickly copied.

If Great Britain sells China and  
other Nations in the East more  
Merchandise than is here sold by  
any other country of the Western  
Hemisphere, it is because she  
is more largely represented by  
British merchants and seamen  
than any other country; and  
by nearly as many as are found  
from all other countries combined.

Out of 4,794 European merchants  
and mercantile establishments and residents  
in the Treaty Ports of China and Hong Kong,  
about 2,300 are British; and as the  
last mentioned port is thoroughly identified  
with the Commerce of Great Britain;  
this City of Canton, about eighty  
miles distant, is, more than <sup>any</sup> other of  
the Chinese Cities, affected by, or under the  
influence of, the British commercial system.

Of the entire foreign Commerce at the Treaty  
Ports in China, ~~estimated~~ at \$235,000,000.00  
per annum, \$170,000,000.00 are claimed as British.

In the absence of authentic statistics, those figures  
seem exaggerated, but are put forth to go unchallenged  
as are many other commercial statistics, which become valid  
by exaggeration. Gibraltar's claim to the Commerce of the Straits  
or Egypt's claim to the Commerce of the Suez Canal, would not be more  
than the pretensions of some Cities ~~to~~ to commercial supremacy.

10

### Tonnage.

The aggregate of tonnage, in 1882, of steamers, to and from Canton, reported at the Imperial Maritime Customs, was 1,850,000 tons; with an average of eight arrivals and departures for each business day of the year.

Only, thirty-five foreign sailing vessels, with an aggregate of 13,000 (13,000) tons, visited Canton during the year 1882.

The Capacity of the Chinese junks, running between Canton and the Sea, ranges from 70 to 150 tons each; and of those sailing between Canton and Upper parts of the River, from 35 to 75 tons each.

The arrivals and departures of these native vessels are variously estimated at from 500 to 700 per day.

Taking the lumbermen as the basis of calculation; and fifty tons as a moderate average of capacity; the result is 25,000 tons per day; or 9,000,000 tons for the business days of the year.

Perhaps it might not be far wrong  
to assume that one third of the  
total of native tonnage is  
foreign, belongs to the Canton and  
Coast trade; and the other two thirds  
to the Canton and interior or  
native commerce.

Thus, the tonnage estimate  
would run about thus—

British	1,850,000 tons;
Foreign, other than	13,000 tons;
Native, Canton and Coast	3,000,000 tons;
Native, Canton and interior	4,863,000 tons;

The estimate of the native has  
been published, but it may be,  
in the absence of authentic data,  
claimed as an approximate estimate  
of the tonnage between Canton and  
the sea-board; and chiefly of the  
nature of foreign commerce.

In getting at the magnitude  
of the native tonnage, I have  
had the assistance of Custom  
House officials, whose observations  
are entitled to confidence.

10  
CPassenger Traffic.

In 1882, the passenger traffic between Canton and Coast Ports, including <sup>Hong Kong</sup> and Macao, by steamers that reported at the Imperial Maritime Customs in Canton, amounted to about 700,000 passengers, only 5,000 of whom were foreigners.

This shows an average of over 2,200 passengers per day, for the business days of the year.

During the first half of 1883 there <sup>were</sup> steamboat passengers numbered 378,000—Chinese.

The passenger traffic between Canton and the interior cannot be accurately computed or stated, but, at a moderate estimate, the arrivals and departures of passengers at Canton, by native boats plying between Canton and interior ports, are 25,000 per day, or 9,000,000 per year, if we allow only fifty passengers on each of the 500 native sailing at and leaving port daily. Many of these native boats are crowded with passengers. This would indicate an active passenger movement.

## Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports at the Imperial Maritime Customs in Canton, in 1882, was about \$19,500,000.00; about one third of which was entered as from foreign countries; and about two thirds from native ports.

The exports from Canton, in 1882, were valued at about \$24,500,000.00; of which about three fourths went to foreign countries; and about one fourth to native ports.

The total value of imports and exports, in 1882, was about \$44,000,000.00 at Canton; exclusive of shipments and receipts by the native vessels; whose business is not permitted to obtain record or publicity, as they report only to the Native Customs Houses. Here I omit reference to importations of Opium at Canton, for it is so extensively smuggled, as to leave me without any accurate statistics as to quantities or valuations; although the amount consumed is almost fabulously large; offsetting nearly, if not China's, Native exports of tea and raw silk.



## Cotton Imports.

11  
\$310.10.10.10.10.  
4.7.2.5.

British trade journals, in reviewing the results of forcing Chinese and other Asiatic markets with manufactured goods during the year 1882, have spoken deeply and discouragingly of the pernicious system of overhauling the actual needs and legitimate demands of these countries; whose markets broke down under the pressure of an excessive supply, and thus entailed losses on shipments that were not required, or called for, by these over-supplied markets.

This is only another version of our imitation of the old European manufacturing policy of making or submitting to sacrifices based on surplus stock, rather than to disturb valuations of merchandise in their home markets.

This being so, it only becomes necessary to know, that, if Americans did not have the lion's share of sales of cotton manufactures in China, this trade is subject to such circumstances as to make the prize of questionable value — the chief consideration.

12.

[illegible]

Manufacturers should bear in mind two very significant facts, that the largest item in foreign imports at Canton is raw Cotton yarn; which constitutes three fifths of the total imports of Cotton goods, amounting to £1,700,000; and also that the second largest item of foreign imports is raw Cotton, chiefly from Bombay, which supplies Canton with nearly all of the imported yarn. Of this cotton, Canton, last year, imported to the value of £1,400,000, besides receiving, among its native imports, 1,000,000 pounds, or 550 tons, of native raw Cotton. These are significant items, for, rightly interpreted, they mean that Chinese cotton manufacturers are likely to check importations of foreign Cotton goods. When our Chinese become their own masters, their cheap labor may cause a strong competition to our own. They will be a great danger to our industry.

## Woolen Imports

Of Woolen imports, Canton, last year, received goods to the value of \$465,000.00, the larger items being "Medium Cloth", "Herring Stripes", "Unimbleth" & "English Camlets".

## Other Imports

Silk-stones form the third largest item of foreign imports, to the value of \$345,000.

Little-fish, of the value of \$288,000 stands fourth on the import list.

Metals valued at \$26,000 for the fifth item in importance among imports for foreign countries.

Firearms, mostly from America, but partly from Japan, stand sixth among foreign imports.

Less than \$8,000 worth of machinery, and scarcely \$3,000 in Cutlery and Hardware,

were among the foreign imports of Canton in 1882.

American clothes are among the most beautiful of imported articles, and seem to have no formidable rivals in Canton. Their honest faces, abundantly displayed in the windows and on the shelves of numerous shops in Canton seem to welcome every American as an old friend; and it is a pleasure to hear suited testimony as to their superior quality.

Shops of American goods in Canton shops, are found everywhere - bearing stamps of American style and manufacture, but the Chinese being furnished with goods, are mostly made of the material and design of their own manufacture.

## Kerosene Oil.

Kerosene Oil, which was very rapidly becoming  
valuable in Canton, and throughout China, was  
one of the most successful and profitable of  
American exports to this country, or vicinity,  
where its value was high and was becoming well  
established, that a Chinese oil syndicate  
was formed last year, and obtained control  
of the transportation of that article into Canton,  
and by paying a fixed sum into the Po-  
stoffice Treasury, amount at \$31,500 per annum,  
acquired with their monopoly of the kerosene  
oil trade, the right of permission, or authority,  
to ship, in addition to the ordinary duty, a special  
tax of fifty cents per case, containing two cans, each  
of which contains four kerosene, or five common gallons.  
The effect of this monopoly tax has been to almost  
destroy the trade in Kerosene Oil, since the special  
tax went into operation about 1st October 1882, in  
which year about 100,000 Cans of Kerosene Oil  
were brought into Canton.

A remonstrance made through the British  
Consulate at Canton, in behalf of an English  
firm interested in this oil trade, elicited  
the reply from the Chinese authorities that since  
foreign merchandise has entered China &  
become the property of Chinese merchants,  
the revenue and amount of the tax there,  
must be controlled by the Chinese.

The imposition of this monopoly tax  
 on kerosene oil does not seem to be in  
 harmony with any recognized system  
 of any government for securing revenue.  
 Those who went into the speculation  
 have deflected this purpose, by  
 making a severe levy upon an  
 article of great utility; and with-  
 standing the pretext that such a  
 tax was necessary to prevent  
 the American kerosene oil from  
 driving the Chinese native ground-rut  
 oil out of existence; there can be no  
 doubt that the introduction of kerosene  
 oil into general use for lights, would  
 cheapen the native oil, for the benefit  
 of the Chinese masses, who use  
 it largely, as an article of food; &  
 in the preparation of various kinds  
 of food, in lieu of butter; which is  
 too expensive for the common people  
 in Asia. This subject is worthy of attention.  
 In the meantime, a serious  
 injury is being inflicted on an important  
 item of American commerce.

# Food.

Considerable quantities of food are imported into Canton, and all Cities of China, for the use of Europeans and Americans.

Of these, those better, and more abundant, can be best obtained from California. From oatmeal should also be

There are many articles that might be brought from America instead of from Europe, if Americans can be induced to comply with the requirements of the local countries and climates, not forgetting salmon is brought from the Pacific Coast in good order; again, satisfaction.

Butter from America is somewhat lighter, because it comes in the large packages; while butter from France, Germany, Italy, and even from New Zealand Australia, reaches China in excellent condition, and is sold at all the stores of the city at about half the price of the European, in the good and the front cases.

Cheese from Switzerland, upon arrival, is far richer, and more palatable and nutritious, than cheese from any other country; but so much is lost by exposure to the climate, that merchants are compelled to throw away enough to make it necessary to sell only at about 45% of the



## Exports.

Canton exported last year ~~about~~ <sup>over</sup> \$12,000,000 of raw silk, valued at over \$12,000,000. Its trade with India is today on a larger scale than heretofore, as the success of the "Silk-Condition House" at Canton has become so well recognized in European, American, and Indian markets, and correctly managed, that unlimited confidence is reposed in the certificates of condition receipt of raw silk for export to India. It was ~~noted~~ <sup>noted</sup> that last year against the numerous fraudulent operations of Chinese dealers, who have ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> ~~become~~ <sup>become</sup> ~~condemned~~ <sup>condemned</sup> of its usefulness, is maintaining a correct standard of weight and condition, which will give confidence to the ~~market~~ <sup>market</sup> abroad. ~~One~~ <sup>One</sup> ~~half~~ <sup>half</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> the total value exported was raw silk, and about one third of the total was of silk ~~products~~ <sup>products</sup>.

About one fifth of Canton's raw silk exports went to the United States, India, France, and England, and Germany took the greater portion, or <sup>over</sup> five fifths of all.



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The stands second on the Export list of Canton, with a valuation of \$2,500,000. Sugar stands third as to valuation, with Exports to the amount of about \$1,250,000.00. Clothing Exports from Canton in 1892, at the value on which Export duty was paid, were valued at \$638,500 (=425,623 Taels); but the U.S. Consular invoice, for Clothing Exports to the United States show a valuation of about \$900,000.00; and should thus stand fourth on the list of Canton Exports.

Pine Crackers were Exported to the value of \$537,000; two fifths of which went to the United States. Cassia Exports reached \$440,000.00. Clothing, Cotton and silk, mostly for native use, were sent from Canton, to the value of \$333,000.00.

Tobacco Exports from Canton amounted to \$370,000.00.

Bangles, or glass ornaments, of Canton manufacture, were exported to the value of \$325,000.00;

Brass Buttons also to the value of \$260,000.00. Both bangles and buttons go principally to India.

Medicine one exported article of \$300,000.  
 Canton Porcelain, and sweet-meats,  
 mostly for English consumption and  
 tea, are exported to the value of \$1,000,000.  
 Human hair, to the extent of over  
 900,000 pounds (one shipment) was  
 among Canton's exports.

Silk, grasscloth, jade-stones,  
 Rhinoceros, hemp, lead, cotton,  
 glassware & silverware, ~~among others~~ were  
 among the considerable items of Canton's exports.

### Economy and Industry.

Economy and industry are so  
 universal among the Chinese people,  
 that all other Nations will continue to  
 find it a hard task to derive wealth  
 from sales of their manufactures in the  
 markets of China; and especially in Canton,  
 where Economy and industry, combined  
 with skilled labor, and abundance of capital  
 for all legitimate business purposes, are more  
 impervious than walls against any  
 and all attempts to capture Chinese  
 markets for American or European  
 manufactures, the Nations are impregnable.  
 They need little, waste nothing, and do  
 everything, save as temperate as frugal.

## Opium Consumption.

*An entire Steamship's cargo of Opium (35 Canton) having, in consequence of the war, been directed to some other port.*

In saying the Chinese waste nothing, I mean they utilize everything that can be made valuable; and can subsist and thrive on what is wasted by an ordinary citizen of North America; and while enormous quantities of Opium are consumed in China, the individual cases of distress and debilitation arising from its use, are so seldom known or mentioned, that one is led to believe the consumers are generally able to indulge in what they regard as a luxury.

Recently (July 1889), Medical Reports issued simultaneously by Officials in charge of British Hospitals at Hong Kong and Singapore, treated the subject of Opium Consumption and its effects, as demonstrated by the experiences of habitual consumers, who have come under inspection, while confined in the institutions in charge of the said Officials, in connection with military prisons and other restraining establishments of the colonial governments.

it is proper to here give the information recently elicited in regard to the effects of opium.

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The Government testimony of these two medical officers is unerringly and emphatically against the prevalent impression as to injurious effects of opium-smoking, or smoking opium, and contrary to the testimony of the eminent Dr. John G. Kern, for the past twenty nine years in charge of the "Medical Dispensary, District Hospital," in Canton, at which over 600,000 patients, with all kinds of diseases and ailments, have received treatment. Having personally interviewed the champions on both sides of this question, I am persuaded that their differences are partly due to different localities that have come under their observation and treatment, involving hereditary results from generations of victims; on one side; and sound constitutions and vigorous bodies, sustained by generous nutriment on the other side; and partly due to opposite directions of sympathy with nationalities primarily affected by the present traffic in opium.

( 2 )

The fact that two very competent and intelligent gentlemen, who stand so high in their honorable and useful profession, as Dr. Williams, of the Canton Hospital, and Dr. Dyce, Colonial Surgeon, at Hong Kong, should, with their long and extensive experience in the treatment of opium-smoking patients, be so wide apart in regard to their opinions as to the effects of smoking opium, may well command the attention; not only of their immediate constituents and communities, but of medical and scientific men throughout the world.

Dr. Dyce stated in his official report very fully, and in connection with tables classifying all the results of his examination of patients of all classes, for the period year ending June 30, 1902.

"Table XI gives a list of opium-smokers received into the Jail, and reporting themselves as consumers of one ounce (28 grains) or upwards of opium daily. It gives their age, number of years they have contracted the habit, their con-

" description of opium per day, and  
 " weight or quantity, and for the four  
 " following weeks, if detained as long.  
 " One of them was ever permitted  
 " to have opium in any form, those  
 " who were sick were treated on the  
 " merits of their cases, and opium  
 " in a terrible condition of disease.  
 " There have been no deaths among them,  
 " and I have not found any cases  
 " of disease among them that could  
 " be attributed to their indulgence in  
 " the habit of opium smoking.  
 " <sup>of Chinese patients, he says</sup> The opium dealer  
 " is of all classes, the greatest smokers  
 " are men who can afford the expense,  
 " and are generally more fit than most  
 " others, but I cannot find that opium  
 " smoking causes prostration in any way.  
 " \* \* \* \* " The heaviest smoker  
 " was the fourth on the list, his daily  
 " consumption being 15 ounces (or 150  
 " grains), he had been an opium  
 " smoker for thirty years - he comes  
 " into Jail weighing 107 lbs, does not

(25)

"lose weight at all, but in three weeks"  
 "rises to 110 lbs, at the end of the fourth week"  
 "weighing the same. It appears to me"  
 "that the opium smoker suffers much"  
 "less from the enforced deprivation of the"  
 "accustomed luxury at once than"  
 "the tobacco smoker." \* \* \* \*  
 "There is certainly no loss of"  
 "sleep to any extent, for I have had"  
 "many of them specially watched."  
 " \* \* \* \* " In fact, the great "  
 "principle of opium, morphia, in "  
 "smoking, seems to remain, entirely "  
 "it in no way affects the smokers."  
 "Now, I have had opium-eaters under"  
 "my care in jails in India and China,"  
 "and among the Chinese crews on board ships,"  
 "and if they had been deprived of their opium"  
 "as the opium smokers have been, the"  
 "consequences would have been serious."  
 "I can also speak from personal "  
 "experience. I have eaten opium till "  
 "I could consume half an ounce "  
 "daily, and I can understand the "  
 "fascination of that habit, and

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"fully appreciate the difficulty"  
 "of leaving it off. I have myself"  
 "smoked three mace (thirty grains)"  
 "of the farmer's prepared opium"  
 "within an hour without the slightest effect."  
 "I have watched other Europeans do the"  
 "same, as they admitted to their conduct."  
 "went, with no effect either."  
 "I counted their pulses and took"  
 "and took their temperature,"  
 "neither of which were altered"  
 "by smoking in the slightest degree."  
 "Three mace is equivalent to three"  
 "pipes, and a pipe every five"  
 "minutes is certainly more than"  
 "a smoker would get through."  
 "Had he to load for himself."  
 "No opium smoker among the"  
 "Chinese smokers with the idea of"  
 "procuring sleep; being naturally"  
 "tired he may take a pipe or two"  
 "before going to sleep, but with no"  
 "intention of helping him to sleep."  
 "An opium smoker visits a friend"  
 "who offers him a pipe, and they"



(2)

"lie smoking, and chatting with  
 "the pipe for hours, just as an  
 "European offers wine to a friend".  
 "The Chinaman does not expect  
 "his visitor to go off to sleep, and  
 "snore like a hog, any more than  
 "the European expects his friend to  
 "get drunk; and make a fool of himself."  
 "That it is costly and expensive"  
 "as a habit there is no denial,"  
 "and in order to procure this luxury,"  
 "and a well-to-do man, the Chinaman"  
 "must deplete himself and his family"  
 "of many comforts and necessities."  
 "x x x x x" "Women of the Western"  
 "world, who would take to such a"  
 "habit as opium smoking, would"  
 "be a miserable object", x x x x  
 "All I can see in it is a waste of  
 "time and money".

Such is the testimony of  
 a talented and skillful gen-  
 tleman, whose observation and  
 experience entitle him to  
 speak clearly on this subject.  
 In conversation, I found he sustained  
 his statements by conclusive citations of facts.

Against that remarkable report on Opium Smoking, the President and General Superintendent of the Eastern Hospital, Dr. John G. Kerr, raised objections, while conceding, with much courtesy, that it originated from "a scientific man," and that a dozen other men might give the same opinion, and as weight attach to it; and in reviewing Dr. Myers report, Dr. Kerr said,

But scientifically, are the facts given by Dr. Myers all that are needed on which to base a sweeping conclusion? Thousands of men have tried opium smoking in Hong Kong. Tens of thousands are trying it in China every day. Is the evidence obtainable from these men to be ignored? Will they pronounce the smoking of opium absolutely "without effect," and "a very harmless practice?"

I have had hundreds of

" Given another study, say,  
 " Heron's is better. The  
 " Medical Missionaries have lost  
 " as many a case. All of these  
 " agree as to the evil effects, physical,  
 " mental, and pecuniary, of opium  
 " smoking, but Medical Missionaries are  
 " badly prejudiced. So we will turn  
 " at once to the question as to whether  
 " there are any immemorable  
 " facts at hand, bearing directly  
 " on the point, and until a def-  
 " inite answer is collected,  
 " either, and weighed by competent  
 " and unprejudiced persons, any  
 " conclusion as to the harmlessness  
 " of opium smoking, founded  
 " on the experience of a few per-  
 " sons, is the essence of  
 " scientific nonsense. "

It is more than probable that  
 I shall, as above intimated,  
 prepare an array of facts on this  
 subject, that will command world-wide  
 attention. Respectfully Submitted  
 Charles Heywood  
 U.S. Consul.

## Commercial Agencies.

### Imports

Imports from foreign countries at Swatow in 1882 amounted to nearly \$9,000,000.00; the greater portion of which is credited to British ports, as the bulk of receipts came through Hong Kong.

Raw Cotton and Cotton Yarn are the largest items of foreign imports; which is a significant feature of foreign and domestic commerce in China.

Exports from Swatow in 1882 amounted to nearly \$3,000,000.00 - the largest item being Sugar.

Emigration of Chinese laborers, from Swatow and tributary country, to Singapore; Bangkok, and other ports between China & India, continues to increase.

Bangkok in Siam is the port to which the greater number migrated numbering 49,366 in 1881, and 71,301 in 1882.

The total tonnage of cargo & cleared mail, at Swatow in 1882 was 1,149,832 tons.

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King Chow:

Exports from foreign countries and Hong Kong in 1882 amounted to \$1,500,000.00.

Opium leads the list of imports with the value of \$445,000.00.

Exports in 1882 to foreign countries and to Hong Kong amounted to \$1,500,000.00.

Sugar leads the list of exports, with the value of \$400,000.00; hides \$200,000.00; and

Serice \$150,000.00;

Seeds \$75,000.00;

and various other commodities exported.

Shanghai:

Shanghai is chiefly a fish raising station, fishing being the chief resource of the people, whose dried salt fish is sent in junks to Cheki and other Chinese markets.

Exports in 1882 were \$1,500,000.00, of which the two items of raw cotton and cotton yarn formed one half, or about \$750,000.00 in value.

Exports amounted to \$940,000.00; the largest item of export was liquid indigo, valued at \$240,000.00; followed by sugar valued at \$225,000.00; and debased \$80,000.00; hides, \$80,000.00; Camellia \$40,000.00; Paper \$47,000.00; Cattle fish \$57,000.00; etc.

The above three Consular Agencies are embraced in the Consular District of Canton. Chas. Seymour

state death & publish instructions  
to forward effects to Sept.  
Hclair



No 34

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 8<sup>th</sup> 1883

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Death of an American citizen,  
named Ira H. Crowell, at Batow.

SYNOPSIS.

Whereabouts of family of deceased.

Personal Affairs of Deceased.

Si #34

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 8<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon. A. A. Adair

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1883, an American citizen, named Ira F. Crowell, a native of Vermont, Massachusetts, where he was born in 1824; and recently First Officer of the "China Merchants Steam Navigation Company's" steamer "Tonan"; died of Cholera, at Swatow, China.

The wife of the deceased is a sister of Mr. Oliver B. Bradford; with whom she is supposed to be now residing, in the United States. Mr. Bradford having,

for several years, as Clerk and Deputy, been connected with the U.S. Consulate General at Shanghai, according to the China Directories of 1868 and 1874.

Probably Mr. George Leonard, now of New York City, would know where Mr Bradford resides; or where his relatives dwell.

I hold, subject to the order or direction of the State Department, Ninety eight & 50/100 Dollars, amount of wages due to deceased; and a small box of personal effects, consisting of watch, chain, shirt-studs, ring, &c, with a purse in which are about three dollars - his apparel, and other articles in the room where he died, having been burned, to prevent contagion.

Yours, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.



*I know  
uses that the  
from the letter  
to the  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
August 25 1883  
35-85  
on St Clair*

*Copy of letter  
page to O. P.  
Beaman Falls Pa  
Mar 29/84*

FROM  
Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,  
TO  
Hon. A. A. Alder,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.  
Further Particulars  
concerning Capt. Geo. H.  
Carrall, deceased.

SYNOPSIS.

No. 35

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 25. 1899.

~~His Excellency~~

Chief of B. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to request  
correction of my dispatch of 1<sup>st</sup> inst.  
by having it numbered 34 instead  
of 33, which was my No. for W. Legation  
& transmitted for State Dept. members;  
and also further to say in regard  
to the death of Capt. Geo. W. Correll,  
mentioned in that dispatch, that numerous  
letters addressed to him have been received.  
Many of them are doubtless from friends  
in America; & others from correspond-  
ents in China may relate to business.

of deceased Lerowell. I would like  
 instructions regarding them.

X I fear, by participating in this relation  
 to those that friends of Capt. Lerowell,  
 who was held in high estimation, has  
 subscribed \$164.00, which sum  
 may be increased, to defray the  
 expenses of erecting a suitable  
 tomb-stone or monument ~~in his grave~~.  
 I cannot learn that the deceased  
 left any other property than what  
 I described in dispatch referred to.  
 He had once returned from China  
 with a fortune, which he lost in  
 America. His return here to retrieve,  
 and the sad result, make his case one  
 of deep interest. The cholera is bad at Canton.

I have the honor to be,  
 Sir, Very Respectfully,  
 Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Seymour,  
 U.S. Consul



*No. 61 2. 214*  
*Mr. Seymour*

*No. 36*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Sept. 13. 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The Canton Riot.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 36

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 13<sup>th</sup> 1883

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Addee,

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that foreign residents in Canton have had some interesting experiences recently; and may have further opportunity to take the measure of Chinese hospitality, before the "Western Powers" unite in obtaining some substantial security for the faithful observance of treaty stipulations, in regard to safety of their lives and property, while peacefully attending to their affairs.

25

Provocations, by irresponsible foreigners, from any part of the Globe outside of China, elicit vengeance and retaliation by Chinese, against the persons and property of foreigners, indiscriminately.

Outrages of this character by the Chinese mobs of outlaws, in Cities and Country places, are usually preceded by inflammatory placards posted on the walls, calling upon the populace to exterminate the foreign barbarians.

Canton has, within the present week, been the scene of incendiarism, pillage, and violence.

Property, belonging to foreigners, has been looted, pillaged, burned, or destroyed, or stolen, by a Chinese mob, on Shamoen, to the value of about two hundred thousand dollars, on Monday 10th instant.

Much of that property could have been saved from destruction by prompt and vigorous measures on the part of the authorities to suppress or disperse the mob. All of the property might have been saved if the authorities had prevented placards of an inflammatory nature against foreigners from having publicity on the walls of the streets for several days to incite the populace to outrages.

The immediate cause, or direct pretext for the action of the mob on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> inst was the censurable cruelty of a Portuguese watchman on the Steamer "Hankow," in knocking and kicking to death or unconsciousness a Chinaman who desired to embark on the steamer before the prescribed <sup>time</sup> for the admission of passengers. The Chinaman fell into the river, and his dead body was raised from the water to the boat or steamer "Hankow."

4

Much bad feeling had existed among the Chinese against foreigners since an unfortunate occurrence in the Honam (S. side) side of the City of Canton on the morning of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1883; when, after a night of dissipation, three European Employees of the Imperial Maritime Customs, (one subject of Great Britain, one a native of Russia, and another a native of Norway) unjustly and needlessly created disturbance and caused a tumult by violent acts against Chinese, resulting in the death of a Chinese boy, & wounding a Chinaman and Chinawoman, by the use of firearms. The Englishman who did the shooting while intoxicated has been <sup>after</sup> examination found or committed to jail for trial before the British Chief Justice for China & Japan.

The occurrence on St. Matthew on Monday morning 10<sup>th</sup> inst only re-opened or renewed the exasperation of the Chinese, which had been repressed by the prompt vigorous action of His Excellency, the Viceroy Lieng



If the promptness & vigor manifested by the retiring Viceroy in suppressing the Honan riot in August, had been applied to the riot of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September, less property would have been destroyed; but the loss of property is not to be compared with the feeling of insecurity that results from the removal of placards, inciting the mob to destroy the lives of foreigners as they destroyed their property. There was no time during the riot of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September when one hundred well-disciplined and properly armed soldiers could not have dispersed the mob. As it was, the mob had uninterrupted sway for four hours in pillage & destruction; and now, by placards, threaten the destruction of foreigners' lives, as well as their property. In all thirteen buildings were burned, & three or four others looted. Total loss & damage probably \$250,000.00.

And, in the meantime, today the plundered property of the foreigners is offered for sale in one of the streets of Canton; and one of the owners of that stolen property, purchased, & he some of his own household effects back from the robbers, in what is known as the "Thieves Market Place", through the assistance of a Chinese employee.

It is gratifying to state that only one American citizen suffered much loss of property by the riot of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> instant; viz Mr E. N. Holwell, to the extent of from ten to twenty thousand dollars.

It is possible that Messrs Russell & Co (an American firm) may have a claim for loss of wharf and other property.

The Viceroys' military forces; and <sup>foreign</sup> Citizens' or residents' patrol; and the arrival of British, Chinese & other gun-boats have temporarily quieted matters.

S<sup>2</sup>

During the reign of the mob, the women and children, and many of the male foreigners, took refuge on the two <sup>British</sup> steamers in port, but many of the foreign residents passed that day, and succeeding nights and days in guarding against a threatened renewal of Chinese hostilities. It is proper to say, that the dispatches of the Consular Officers, representing several Governments, sent to the Viceroy Monday 10<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> but elicited no formal or written replies or acknowledgements until this afternoon, 13<sup>th</sup> inst.

The U.S. flag was the last lowered on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> inst.; and was the first restored to mast head.

This Consulate has been Head Quarters for the Consular Corps; and has been the shelter for any American citizens, male and female, needing food & lodging pending interruptions to regular business.

It has been my pleasure to administer "aid & comfort" to several of my countrymen & countrywomen in a pressing emergency.

9

Hoping we may be exempt  
from a repetition of such  
scrums; & that I may be  
pardoned for sending this by  
Tomorrow's Steamer direct, after  
having sent similar advice to  
the U.S. Minister through M. General  
General.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedt Servt

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul



*S. C. C. C. C.*

*Dec 11/83*

*No. 37*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*October 13-1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Quarterly Return and  
Accounts.*

SYNOPSIS.

N<sup>o</sup> 37

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 13<sup>th</sup> 1883

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Adee

Third Ass<sup>t</sup>. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you  
herewith Returns and Accounts, with  
Vouchers, for the quarter ending Sept<sup>r</sup> 20/83,  
as per enclosures viz:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Digest of Invoice Book.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Record of Notarial Acts.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Summary of Consular business.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Account of Miscellaneous expenses,  
with vouchers in duplicate.

I also enclose Digest of Invoice  
Book for 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/4 yr 1883, to cover a  
possible omission when I sent returns  
in July.

Slut

As there is nothing to  
report under forms Nos 120, 121,  
and 137, they are omitted.

I am, Sir, Very Resp<sup>ly</sup>  
Yr Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul

Enclosures 3  
True. 3

Form 159.

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during  
the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1883.

No.	Date.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.	
	Sept 2	Leong Bing Yon	Verifying Power of attorney.	2	-	
366	6	Thomas Row & Smith	Invoices Duplicate and copy.	2	-	
367	"	Pustau & Co.	" " Quadruplicate and "	2	-	
368	"	H. Dent & Co. }	" " Duplicate "	2	-	
369	"	for Lindblad & Davis }	" " " "	2	-	
370	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
372	"	Thomas Row & Smith	" " " "	2	-	
373	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
374	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
375	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
376	"	Simson & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
379	"	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
380	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
381	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
382	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
383	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
385	"	Pustau & Co.	" " Quadruplicate "	2	-	
387	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
388	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
397	"	Birley & Co.	" 4 Copies for South American in London.	4	50	
398	"	Carlson & Co.	" Invoices Duplicate & copy	2	-	
399	"	H. Dent & Co.	" " Quadruplicate & copy	2	-	
400	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
401	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
402	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
403	"	Pustau & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
404	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
405	"	"	" " " "	2	-	
406	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
408	"	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
409	"	Russell & Co.	" " " "	2	-	
410	"	Thomas Row & Smith	" " " "	2	-	
418	"	23	" " " "	2	-	
				\$	68	50

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.



Form 159.

(Continued)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1883.

No.	DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.	REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.
410	Sept 3	Russell & Co:	certifying Invoices quadruplicate & copy	2	00
417	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2	-
418	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2	-
419	" 4	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
420	" 4	"	" " " " " "	2	-
421	" 4	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
422	" 6	Carlomity & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
423	" 4	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
424	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
426	" "	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
427	" "	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2	-
428	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
429	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
431	" 8	H. Dent & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
"	" 9	Russell & Co:	copies for South America via London.	2	00
432	" "	"	Invoices Quad: & copy	2	-
"	" 14	Carlomity & Co:	copies of specifications	4	-
440	" 16	H. Dent & Co:	Invoices, Quaduplicate & copy	2	-
442	" 17	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2	-
443	" "	"	Quinta: " " "	2	-
444	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
445	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
447	" "	Russell & Co:	Quad: " " "	2	-
448	" "	H. Dent & Co -	" " " " " "	2	-
449	" "	for Lincolns & Rand	" " " " " "	2	-
451	" "	Deacon & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
452	" "	Russell & Co:	" " " " " "	2	-
455	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
457	" 17	Carlomity & Co	" " " " " "	2	-
458	" 18	"	" " " " " "	2	-
460	" "	Thomas R. & Smith	" " " " " "	2	-
461	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
462	" "	"	" " " " " "	2	-
				Invoices forms \$137. 00	

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

(Continued)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1883.

No.	DATE	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
				\$	Cts.	
<del>422 Sept 9 Britan &amp; Co.</del>						
				Brought forward	8	137.00
424	" 18	H. Dent & Co.	certifying invoices	Quadruplicate & copy	2	-
470	" 27	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
475	" 28	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
477	" "	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
478	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
479	" 29	H. Dent & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
480	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
481	" 30	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
483	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
484	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
485	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
486	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
487	" "	Thomas R. Smith	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
488	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
490	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
493	Sept. 5	Carlson & Co.	4 copies for South America via Spain.		4	50
-	" 7	Russell & Co.	3 " " " "	" " " "	2	50
500	" 10	H. Dent & Co.	Invoices Quintas	vide p. 4	2	-
502	" "	Russell & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
503	" 12	Deacon & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
506	" "	Thomas R. Smith	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
508	" 13	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
509	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
517	" 22	Russell & Co.	Quas. and	" " " "	2	-
518	" "	Britan & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
520	" 24	Carlson & Co.	Quintas	" " " "	2	-
521	" "	H. Dent & Co.	Quas. and	" " " "	2	-
522	" "	"	Quintas	" " " "	2	-
523	" "	"	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
524	" "	Ling & Davis	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
525	" "	Carlson & Co.	" " " "	" " " "	2	-
527	" "	Britan & Co.	" " " "	Quas. and	12	-
carried over				8	204.00	

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

U. S. CONSUL.

Form 159.

(continued) (4)

Quarterly transcript of the Record of Notarial services at the Consulate Canton, during the quarter ended the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 1883.

DATE.	TO WHOM THE SERVICE WAS RENDERED.	NATURE OF THE SERVICE.	AMOUNT OF FEE OR COMPENSATION.		REMARKS.
			\$	Cts.	
Sept: 24	Proton. & Co.	Certifying Invoices	2	00	
529	"	"	2	-	
530	25 Thomas Lane Smith	Quinta:	2	-	
531	"	"	2	-	
532	"	"	2	-	
533	"	"	2	-	
534	"	"	2	-	
535	"	"	2	-	
536	"	"	2	-	
537	"	"	2	-	
538	"	"	2	-	
539	"	"	2	-	
540	26 Russell & Co.	"	2	-	
541	"	"	2	-	
542	"	"	2	-	
543	"	"	2	-	
544	"	"	2	-	
-	"	"	-	-	
-	"	"	-	-	
3 copies for South America via London			2	50	
			\$ 238. 50	Total	

I certify that the foregoing Record of Notarial services is a full and correct transcript of the Record of this Consulate, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the Fees received at this Consulate for such services during the period named.

Charles Lyman  
U. S. CONSUL.

Form No. 103.

Summary of business at the United States Consulate at Canton during  
the Quarter ended *30<sup>th</sup> September 1883.*

Movement of Vessels.

Vessels in Port from last Quarter:

Vessels arriving during present Quarter: *None* except "*Palos*" & "*Imiata*" of U.S. Navy

Vessels departing:

Vessels remaining in Port:

Tonnage arriving:

Tonnage departing:

Fees received, \$ *466.<sup>00</sup>-*

Expenses, including Salary, \$ *1374.<sup>41</sup>*

Movement of Seamen.

Seamen in Port from last Quarter:

Seamen arriving:

Seamen shipped:

Seamen died:

Seamen discharged:

Seamen deserted:

Seamen departed:

Seamen in Port:

Synopsis of Seamen's Account.

Balance from previous Quarter:

Received for Extra Wages:

Expended for Seamen:

Balance:

\$ Dr.      \$ Cr.

Consulate of the United States,  
at Canton, *30<sup>th</sup> September 1883.*

*Charles J. Smith*  
*W. B. Brown*



*St. Clair*

*No. 38*

*Dec 1/83*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*October 13 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Returns  
and Accounts of  
Shanghai Consular Agency.*

SYNOPSIS.

N<sup>o</sup> 38

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Octbr 18<sup>th</sup> 1883

W. A. A. Adee

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit  
returns and accounts of British  
Consular Agency for the Quarter  
ending Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1883, as rendered by  
Mr. W. T. Jones, namely: -

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Report of Marine Book.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Return of deceased American citizens.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Summary of Consular business.
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Record of Treasury Fees.
- 5<sup>th</sup> - General Account for 3<sup>rd</sup> Q<sup>tr</sup> of 1883.

Yours, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

For  
enclosures 3

1711  
20  
1712

No. 39

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 20<sup>th</sup> 1883

Hon. A. A. Addee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to express my  
thankful acknowledgments of the  
Department's dispatch No. 21, granting  
me leave of absence for sixty days,  
of which I shall not avail myself,  
for the reason that the disturbances  
of August and September, followed  
by uncertainties as to the condition of  
affairs in Canton, pending strenuous  
efforts on the part of the Chinese authorities  
to prevent the turbulent elements

from perpetrating further atrocities  
against foreigners, <sup>made</sup> it is desirable that the Consul  
should be at his post of duty, where I remain.

Furthermore, the climate has  
been more genial to me than I expected;  
and I feel no special need of going away to  
escape from heat of the prolonged summer.

Still, as a few weeks of respite  
generally enables foreign residents to recover  
from malarial fever and physical debility;  
I may be glad to have the privilege of escaping  
from the midsummer heat of next year;  
and with that in view, I will be gratified  
by permission, if necessary, to enjoy the leave  
of absence without waiting for a reply to a  
later application.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U. S. Consul





No. 40

Jan 10 1884

Mr. Seaman

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Number 7-1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The Credit system in business.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Chinese laws and customs  
in regard to credits.*

*(Copied for Bu. Statistics. March 1884.)*

No. 40.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 7<sup>th</sup> 1883

W. A. Adair

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state, in reply, to a circular received from the State Department, requiring information in regard to the credit system in business, that it seems to be the custom in Canton; and, so far as I can learn, throughout Southern China, to extend liberal credits in business transactions; and with comparatively little inconvenience or disappointment in settlements, which are generally made semi-annually.

Before the beginning of the new year, which is in the second week of February, the seals are almost universally locked up, and remain so during that month. It is customary to affix the vermilion seals to all receipts for money payments; according to the commercial customs of the Nations with whom the Chinese had commerce one hundred centuries ago, including not only the Romans and Persians, but Babylonians.

The closing of the seals implies that all business matters have been adjusted; and such is the fact with rare exceptions.

It is almost universally assumed in this part of China that the business or pecuniary obligations of all solvent individuals, firms, & companies, will be honorably met and fully discharged before the end of the Chinese year.

52

All delinquents then pass into the dishonored class; and are soon put under process of coercive termination of a business career, and are subject to punishment by <sup>public</sup> blows.

By reference to the Chinese penal code, it appears that the act of obtaining property under false pretenses is treated as theft, both as to the nature of the crime, and the severity of punishment.

No dutiful son feels absolved from discharging his father's debts. Adversity occasioned by unavoidable circumstances is regarded with indulgence.

Failure, caused by profligacy, or hazardous ventures, or recklessness, admits of no countenance.

Besides the annual settlements, which are full and clean, it is customary among Commercial men to demonstrate their solvency, and promote their mutual safety and comfort, by approximately clearing all balances to their mutual satisfaction, in the middle of the Chinese year, or about the first of August.

Thus, by semi-annual settlements, all

4

Chinese business concerns, with any pretensions to solemnity and solidity, attend, regularly and sacredly, to these customs, which serve to inspire all concerned with mutual confidence; and this observance of good faith gives every man a feeling of security, which results in solid credit and commercial safety.

A well known and verified case of strict regard for good credit among the Chinese merchants might be cited in the action of an extensive and opulent merchant named "Houqua"; who was, during the middle of the present century, a leader in the commerce of Canton; and left an estate variously estimated at from twenty five to fifty millions of dollars.

On the occasion of a Chinese firm failing, with large indebtedness to foreign merchants, under circumstances that were deemed dishonorable; "Houqua" called upon half a dozen wealthy Chinese merchants to join him in paying off the total indebtedness of the insolvent Chinese firm; and

5

headed the subscription with one million of dollars - remarking that "Chinese credit must remain untarnished."

This is the same "Hongqua", who ~~helped to~~ raised the portion of the six millions of "indemnity" or "ransom", which had to be paid by the Chinese authorities within forty eight hours to prevent the bombardment of Canton by the English; when "Hongqua" cheerfully contributed "One million and one hundred thousand Dollars - \$1,000,000. of which he gave in recognition of the fidelity of his son; \$200,000. of which he donated in token of the affection of his beloved wife; and \$800,000. as a thank-offering for the prosperity that had incessantly attended him in his commercial enterprises", as appears on public record.

Yours Truly, Very Respectfully,  
Your obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.



*See "charge and  
discharge report"  
to be Jan 23/84*

*No. 41*

*Attest*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*November 8<sup>th</sup> 1883*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Canton affairs.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Circumstances attending the riots  
of August and September 1883.*

No. 41

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 8<sup>th</sup> 1883

Mr. A. A. S. Lee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I had the honor, under date of Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> - ult, in dispatch numbered 36, to give you, briefly, the information that disturbances of a somewhat serious nature had occurred in Canton; and that the lives and property of foreigners in Southern China were jeopardized by the hostilities of Chinese mobs. As matters have quieted down sufficiently to justify a full statement of facts in connection with those occurrences, permit me to place on record the circumstances.



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It is impossible to get a correct view of the causes that have led to the recent outbreaks of vengeance among Chinese against foreigners, without taking into due consideration the irritation among the natives of China, produced by the late military strife between Russian and Chinese forces in Northern China; and the preparations for war between France and China in Southern or Southern China.

With a consciousness that Chinese resources were equal to the Russian emergency; and, that with the adoption of modern improvements in war ships and military weapons, their superior numbers would enable them to cope with the French, if war is inevitable, there has been, and still exists, a popular element inclined to war measures; and a more respectable element averse to war.

(c

While such feelings were actively manifested among the Chinese masses; and while the Chinese authorities and officials were occupied with preparations for the worst, and with hopes for the best; there has been a strong under-current, which became more and more a power, composed of the turbulent, dissatisfied, and apyrian portion of the populace, who delight in turmoil, strife, confusion, and anarchy; and would strike down natives or foreigners, or rob, pillage, and destroy the property of all who are in apparent affluence or luxury, without discrimination, or indiscriminately.

Two extensive conflagrations occurred in Canton last Winter; and it is believed that incendiaries who desired opportunities to loot and steal caused some of those disastrous fires in strictly Chinese business quarters of the City.

During the year, in Cities and in Country towns, there have been numberless indications that the bad feelings, engendered by war-threats and military preparations, of the Chinese were becoming intensified against all foreigners. Inflammatory and unfriendly placards were abundant.

as the most available and effective means of communication of ideas among the people, these placards are generally resorted to in efforts to stir the people up to perpetration of outrages.

The occasion for concentrating the prejudices of the natives against foreigners occurs whenever the latter commit any act of violence or injustice against natives; and in regard to the trouble in Canton, there has been no lack of provocation by the foreigners.

The carousal or debauch of three Europeans (employed as tide-waiters or detectives in the Chinese Imperial Customs) through the night between Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of August, followed, on the morning of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of August, by one of the three Europeans shooting and killing a Chinese boy, and wounding a Chinaman and a Chinawoman, needlessly & unjustifiably, by the use of fire arms, led to turbulence and disorder that could not be suppressed until the Viceroy's military forces dispersed the indignant rioters on Monday evening or night, 13<sup>th</sup> August. During the two days (Sunday and Monday)

no boat of any kind containing a foreigner was allowed to land on the South side of the

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Quanton river. The mob would not permit the body of the dead boy to be removed from the place where he was slain or killed.

As the provocation was greater than that which caused the riot of Sept. 10/83, and as the indignation persuaded a larger and better class of Chinese than were engaged in the September riot; the riot of August 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> was, in every respect, more formidable and dangerous than the subsequent riot, which destroyed much property; but the promptness with which the Viceroy, "Tseng", (Wade of the Marquis "Tseng", Chinese Ambassador in Europe) responded to the suggestions of the Consular Corps, as set forth in a communication prepared by myself, and signed by six Consular Officers, as per Copy enclosed marked #1, prevented the execution of a fixed purpose on the part of the Chinese mob to exterminate foreigners, and destroy their property at that time.

The three Europeans (British, Russian, and Swedish subjects) were placed in the British jail.

6/

Over a month elapsed before the British Chief Justice for China and Japan, Sir Richard J. Keeble, could come from his residence in Shanghai to Canton to try the accused Briton named Logan, who had been examined by the British Consul, and held for trial on the charge of murdering the Chinese boy.

In the meantime the Russian and Greek had been set at liberty, and departed - having lost their place in the Custom House.

As justice moved slower in foreign Courts than in Chinese Courts, the impression became prevalent among the natives that the three Europeans who caused the troubles of August 12<sup>th</sup> would not be punished; and the daily placards became more numerous and threatening.

The ill-advised and unjustifiable conduct of the Portuguese gang-way watchman on the British Steamer "Hankow", in killing or drowning a young Chinaman who tried to embark before the proper time, served as a match to ignite the inflammable elements, on morning of Sept. 10/83.

Immediately, and with wonderful celerity, the mob rallied for vengeance or revenge; and would have burned the steamer, if it had not suddenly cast off from the wharf, and steamed away, which it did in front of the Shameen Reservation, where the foreigners chiefly reside.

The wharf was soon burned; and as soon as it became known, that the Agent of the Steamer lived on Shameen, the mob moved toward his residence; but, finding many valuable buildings, filled with portable effects of considerable cost, a systematic plan of pillage and destruction was adopted by the mob, without any serious interruption, until after four hours of looting and incendiarism, from 8½ A.M., to about 12.45 P.M.; at which time, or nearly one o'clock P.M. on Monday September 10<sup>th</sup> 1883, the Viceroy's military forces reached Shameen - the present Viceroy being "Chang", who had recently returned to his former Viceroyalty, in Canton, after relieving Li Hung Chang in one of the Northern Provinces for a year.

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About a dozen dwellings were burned, after having been looted; and several other buildings were pillaged.

The flags of the Consulate were lowered when it became necessary to admonish people of foreign nations to seek shelter and safety on board of the steamers in port which received them freely and kindly until the mob were dispersed; ~~and~~ when those residents whose domiciles had been spared were <sup>soon</sup> filled with friends in distress.

With the exception of about thirty minutes, while depositing for safety the <sup>certified</sup> invoices of <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>going per next steamer, & the</sup> two most important books of record, from the U.S. Consulate, on board of the Steamer "Kingspo," between 12.30 and 1 P.M., I remained on Shamew; and witnessed the operations of the mob, until smoke and cinders, driven toward me by the wind then blowing from the East, made my position any longer untenable; and admonished me of the danger of further delay in rescuing so much from the Consular archives.

The British & German flags were lowered after ten o'clock A.M.

The only Consular flag in sight after 10.30 A.M. was the U.S. flag, which was lowered a few minutes before one o'clock P.M.; about the time the Viceroy's troops arrived, and when the mob were firing and looting buildings one block East of this Consulate.

At three o'clock P.M. the Consular Corps, composed of Consular Officers representing Great Britain, German Empire, France, Netherlands, Sweden & Norway, and Denmark, assembled at the U.S. Consulate; and prepared & sent to the Viceroy identical letter, separately signed, as per copy enclosed, & numbered #2.

At five o'clock P.M. the foreign residents, pursuant to call, assembled in the Canton Club House, to organize for defense.

As Senior Consul, I called the meeting to order, and nominated Alfred T. Duval, Esquire, President of the Shamoon Council, as Chairman.

An organization was effected, of sixty residents, in three sections of twenty each, to patrol the Shamoon, during that & succeeding night.



During that time, and from the 10<sup>th</sup> of September until the middle of October, much solicitude has been entertained by the Viceroy and other high Chinese officials, as to their ability to maintain authority over the turbulent elements in Canton and its immediate surroundings.

The placards exposed in public places throughout Canton congratulated the Chinese people upon their excellent conduct and great services in the destruction of so much of the property of foreigners, who must soon be utterly exterminated.

The walls of the Viceroy's Palace had placards on them admonishing him that if any indemnity is paid to the foreigners for property destroyed in the riot, he will be assassinated.

Some placards stated that as the Chinese officials were giving all of their attention and services to the protection of the foreigners, who must be killed, and exterminated forever from Canton,

the people had determined to take matters into their own hands, and would proceed to apply the needed remedy, by destroying the foreign devils and their property; and by killing those Chinese officials who were defending barbarian dogs.

So defiant and aggressive were the turbulent elements in Canton, that the Viceroy and other Chinese officials for a while actually distrusted their ability to maintain rightful authority against the mobs.

At the same time riotous mobs began to make demonstrations at Foo-Chow, and other points in China; and it was currently reported that along the valley of the Yangtze, for hundreds of miles, the members of the "Fried," the "White Lily," and other secret societies of Chinese rebels, were ready to bid defiance to the authority of the present Dynasty.

These statements will enable you to understand that the

Chinese authorities were in as much jeopardy as foreigners; and that both were equally interested in every measure or movement that tended to strengthen the hands of those who control public affairs.

With that view of the situation, I found myself, in the line of apparent duty, and of sound policy, somewhat apart from those of my Consular colleagues who were disposed, and even determined, to rasp and annoy the Viceroy, and severely criticize his action in regard to foreigners.

While maintaining that the Chinese authorities must be held responsible for the safety of foreigners and their property; I accepted the friendly assurances of the Chinese officials, in connection with what seemed to me vigorous and judicious efforts to give effect to their declarations, as sincere purpose on their part to throw all possible security around foreigners; and manifested no distrust as to the ability

or desire of the Chinese authorities to faithfully protect all foreign interests.

I therefore abstained from any annoying or captious criticisms upon the Viceroy's plans or actions; and kept the U.S. Consulate booming with good cheer, pleasant intercourse, and appropriate hospitalities; in which foreigners of various nationalities, and many of the higher Chinese officials, from the Viceroy, Provincial Judge, & Chief Magistrate, down to the military officers in charge of the Provincial, City, and Shamoon forces, participated, with social relish. That was one point of policy or action, on which I was not very cordially sustained by the British, German and French Consuls. However, time has very emphatically demonstrated that my course was right.

Nothing contributed so much to discourage the turbulent elements in Canton as the arrivals of war-vessels, bearing the flags of foreign Powers; with the certainty that if the Viceroy's forces

failed to make successful resistance against Chinese mobs on Shamoon, the foreign marines, with machine-guns, would meet the emergency.

The presence of these "Men-of-War", while inspiring turbulent natives with dread and terror, took several of the hot-headed and bellicose foreigners off their base; by causing an attempt to usurp the functions of the Chinese authorities in protecting foreigners.

A military Company was organized on Shamoon, supplied with arms from the British arsenal <sup>or depot</sup> at Hong Kong. The Officers of the commanding the "Men-of-War" in Port had a meeting on board of the British war-vessel "Swift"; and sent to the Consular Corps a written programme of operations in the event of another outbreak occurring, which might require the services of the foreign ships & their crews. It was then and there decided ~~that~~ and recommended that the North Bridge between Shamoon island and the City should be immediately destroyed or completely barricaded, as a precautionary measure; as set forth in enclosed document numbered #3, with my qualified disapproval.

#3 & #4.

My reasons for resisting the adoption of the recommendation to destroy or barricade the North Bridge, were, that it would alone precipitate a formidable riot, by calling together at that point immense crowds of people, who might quickly become uncontrollable; and that as the Viceroy's forces, then and now occupying the area for the protection of foreigners, were guarding both bridges (North and East), and used the North Bridge for ordinary communications with the city, such an act as the destruction or barricade of that bridge would be accepted by the Chinese authorities as usurpation of the Viceroy's functions, and would not only absolve him from the further responsibility of protecting the foreign community, but would also invalidate any claims for indemnity in event of losses.

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In company with Captain Gliddon, of the U.S. "Palos", I called upon Captain Tisdall, in command of the British war-vessels and forces in port, <sup>Sunday Sept. 30th,</sup> and urged upon him the necessity of abstaining from any act which might be regarded by the Chinese authorities as usurpation of their functions; or in any degree absolving them from the responsibility of protecting the foreign residents; or tend to impair the validity of claims for indemnity in the event of further losses by riots; but that, so far as practicable, the marine forces in port should keep in line with the action of the Consular Corps; and co-operate with the Viceroy's forces, as auxiliary means in resisting riotous invaders against the foreign community. I then placed in the hands of the British Commander the programme or recommendation of the Officers in command of the "Men-of-war" in port, representing British, French, Portuguese, and U.S. Governments; with the comments of the Consuls to whom the paper had been submitted for consideration. Several changes have since occurred in the war-vessels and Officers in this Port.

(11)

We have since had in port the British gun-boat "Lionet", the U.S. Steamship "Ismenia", the French Steamer "Lutin", and the German S.S. "Eltis".

The U.S. "Ismenia", with 225 men and 25 officers, and excellent equipments, presents stronger available means for defensive operations than all of the other 'Men-of-War' combined in port twice over; and with the admirable discipline maintained by Capt. Harrington, who has with him the most creditable body of officers I have ever seen on one ship, the "Ismenia" is justly regarded with respect by all concerned.

It is not necessary now to present any argument in vindication of the course I adopted in regard to the use of the marine force on Thameen; for time has also verified the soundness of my position on that point; which was duly appreciated by the British and American officers in command of war-vessels in port; and is now generally acknowledged as judicious and correct, notwithstanding the temporary dislodgment of persons in many persons in the presence of threatened renewal of Chinese assaults against foreigners.



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 Without attempting to perform any brilliant manoeuvres in a crisis, which demanded prudence and firmness, it has been my endeavor to maintain a conservative and conciliatory course, and prevent any erroneous action, which might diminish the responsibility of the Chinese authorities, or weaken the validity of foreigners' claims for indemnity for losses sustained from riotous natives.

The importance of securing those two ends cannot be questioned; and the results have justified the means employed for their attainment.

It will now be in order to refer to the disposal of Europeans accused of causing the deaths of Chinese, on the mornings of August 12<sup>th</sup> & Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, which led to the two riots of those dates.

The Russian and Swede were released by their consular officers, as having done nothing worthy of punishment; although they had, while drunk and disorderly on the streets, insulted and slapped and pushed Chinese of both sexes about in a rough, rude, coarse and offensive manner; which aroused the Chinese to unite in driving away these two European assailants, until the Briton (Logan) came to the rescue of his two friends, and shot three Chinese—one killed.

(14)

In process of time, (Sept 20<sup>th</sup> to Sept 28<sup>th</sup>) Logan was tried at the British Consulate in Canton by Chief Justice Rennie, and a British Jury of remarkable intelligence and excellent character.

The prosecution was feebly and miserably conducted by the Crown Advocate Wilkinson (from Shanghai), who is said to be a well-read and thoroughly-educated lawyer; but who has no ability to present a case to a jury. His action in any school house in America on "declamation day" would entitle him to stern punishment. The Chinese Government had employed two very able legal gentlemen from Hong Kong to assist, or look after Chinese interests; but they were not permitted by the incompetent Crown Advocate, to plead in court against Logan; who, in defiance of a vigorous prosecution, was declared by the jury guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to seven years of imprisonment with hard labor. Logan is now in the prison at Hong Kong; and his two companions in the row were not even detained as witnesses. Chinese witnesses are strange actors in court; and it requires the utmost tact to get from them any consistent narration. I attribute this to the severe penalties for false accusation; which is punishable by bamboo blows with severity.

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To say this slowly attained result was not expected by, or satisfactory to, the Chinese officials or people, would fully express their disappointment and indignation; for it was contrary to their ideas of justice and punishment; and brought a new strain upon those in authority, who had appeased the clamor of the populace by assurances that law and justice would reign.

Attention was next turned toward the Portuguese employed on the British steamer "Hankow", accused of causing the death of a Chinaman on the morning of Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, which event was the immediate cause of the riot of that day.

If the British Consul had promptly sent a Constable on board of that steamer, and arrested the accused Portuguese, and lodged him in the Consul's jail, and given notice of fair examination or trial, the riot might, and, doubtless, would have been measurably averted; and probably stopped with the burning of the wharf.

But no persuasion from the Captain

2

of the British Steamer *Hankow*, and no advice from his Consular Colleagues, could persuade the British Consul to take the accused Portuguese named "Dias" into custody.

At the meetings of the Consular Board in the U.S. Consulate on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept and succeeding day, I took the position that as no treaty exists between Portugal and China; and as "Dias" was on the "Articles" of a British Steamer; the British Consul should take charge of "Dias", and permit the *Hankow* to proceed on her trip to Hong Kong, ~~to~~ from which port and Canton that steamer constantly ran.

The French Consul had, during the past Summer, while sojourning at the Portuguese port of Macao, been verbally requested by a Portuguese Official (I think the Governor) to look after Portuguese interests at Canton; and in compliance with that desire, the French Consul requested the British Consul to transfer "Dias" from the British Steamer *Hankow* on ~~Wednesday~~ <sup>evening</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> September, to the Portuguese war vessel "Tamiega" then in port.

12

By what process of reasoning the British Consul, after repudiating control and jurisdiction over a man who was on the "Whaler" of a British Ship, on which some alleged crime had been committed, while in Chinese waters, took the accused "Dias", and placed him on board of a war-vessel under the flag of a Nation having no treaty relations with China, it is difficult to comprehend; but that act was thus performed; and after five weeks of delay, pending controversy as to jurisdiction, the Portuguese "Dias", accused of murder, was conveyed from Canton to Macao, agreeably with mandates from the Imperial Government of Portugal. The Commander of the "Famega", on the evening of Thursday Oct 18th, through the French Consul, notified the Viceroy of the commands of the Portuguese Government, and intention of compliance with such orders; and between five and six o'clock on the following morning, steamed out of the Port of Canton, with Dias on board, to Macao; while the Viceroy was preparing a formal remonstrance.

"Dias" is imprisoned at Macao; and no definite plan for his trial has been announced. The entire affair is bad.

Security for the lives and property of foreigners in China cannot be maintained, or reasonably expected, on any such basis of action, as has been adopted by Europeans in the cases herein described; and I respectfully suggest, that, as this subject involves interests of sufficient importance to justify the Government of the United States in efforts to place foreigners upon a more secure footing in China; these facts should be brought squarely before the Governments of European and other countries, to prevent further resort to the tribunals of exasperated and indignant native mobs, for the correction of evils growing out of the lawlessness and violence of foreigners in China.

These facts have, substantially as herein stated, been communicated to the U.S. Legation, at Peking; and to the U.S. Consul General, at Shanghai; and admit of no other version in the spirit of accuracy or truthfulness.

This question, involving the interests of all Nationalities, is worthy of attention.

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The fourth item that should be mentioned in this report upon affairs connected with the riots in Canton is the adjustment and settlement of claims of foreigners for indemnity for losses; and in regard to this feature of the case, it has also been my duty to stand alone in the consular corps in favor of a just and honest policy, which is, apparently, to be adopted.

I have been unable to discover, on the part of the Chinese authorities, any disposition to make a fair adjustment of losses of foreigners in the Canton riots, and indemnity for righteous claims; while, on the other hand, there has been a combined effort to give shape to public opinion, and to impress the Chinese officials into the belief, that the losses sustained were from four to six times their actual amount.

Similar exaggerations occurred in a previous settlement of losses, largely in excess of their correct amounts; and while adhering firmly to what I am sure is the right course in this matter, it has been my lot to incur the displeasure of those who desired to get inordinate claims allowed.

25

The Hong Kong newspapers, for several days, kept their readers and the public informed of the fact that the U.S. Consul at Canton had estimated the riot losses at about a quarter of a million of dollars, while the other Consuls estimated them at from one million to a million and a half of dollars; and that the U.S. Consul and Viceroy were altogether too friendly; and that the reception of the Chinese officials at the U.S. Consulate in Canton were of a very social character, while the other Consuls received them coldly - to all of which, so far as relates to myself personally, I plead "guilty", and "invoke the mercy of the Court".

Moreover, the British Consul last week sent around to the foreigners interested, formal notice that positive orders had been received from the British Legation at Peking that no extortionate or fictitious claims should be presented; and the German Consul has also conceded to an Advocate in the employ of the Chinese Government that the total losses will not exceed three hundred thousand dollars Mexican = about \$370,000. gold. I have only one American claim to present - viz: Messrs Russell & Co. for \$10,600.00.



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Of this, I am now convinced that the estimate given by me on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September to the Viceroy's Deputation, at about a quarter of a million of dollars, covered all just claims for losses; and it is a source of gratification to see that in this matter my course is fully vindicated, and its correctness established and recognized. You will please understand those approximate estimates by the Consuls were solicited by the Viceroy, for a correct presentation of the financial feature of the case to the Imperial Government at Peking.

In this connection it is proper to add that the Provincial Judge, "Kung"; and the Toatai, "Pang"; made a formal call at the U.S. Consulate on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst, and remained for an hour or more in consultation as to adjustment of losses; and conveyed to me the desire of the Viceroy that he should be permitted to send my name to the Imperial Government in Peking, as one of the two arbitrators, or Commissioners, to ascertain and determine the amount of indemnity;

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if the Foreign Legations would consent to leave the matter in the hands of two arbitrators, one of whom they would be asked to designate.

Whether that ~~plan~~ of adjustment will be adopted or not, I am unable to say.

My reply was - that while it is my desire to avoid coming into conflict with Claimants and Consuls, whose views, as to losses, had been widely different from mine; I would not shrink from duty or responsibility in a matter involving important interests; if that plan meets with the approval of the Imperial Government, and Foreign Legations.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,  
U.S. Consul.

Three Enclosures }  
marked #1. #2. #3 }  
also  
One Enclosure #4. }  
Map inside #3.

(Copy) No. 17

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

August 13<sup>th</sup> 1883.His Excellency  
"Seng"Viceroy of the Two Guangs  
Canton.

Sir:

Your Excellency's attention is respectfully called to the propriety and necessity of some effective means being employed to preserve order and allay excitement on the Honam side of the Canton river; on account of a deplorable disturbance which occurred in that portion of this City at an early hour on the morning of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> instant; between some Chinese residents and three Europeans; resulting, unfortunately, in the death of a Chinese boy, and the wounding of a Chinaman and a Chinawoman, from the use of fire-arms in resisting a mob.

The three Europeans, one of whom is a native of Great Britain, another a native of Russia, and the third a native of Norway or Sweden, have been arrested; and are now

confined in the jail of the British Consulate, to await examinations according to Treaty stipulations and requirements. In the meantime, the excitement and feelings of the populace in the vicinity referred to, have assumed such a threatening character as to demand vigorous and prompt measures at the hands of the Chinese authorities to prevent further atrocities.

Wherefore, Your Excellency is respectfully informed of the facts; and requested to cause such measures to be immediately adopted, as will prevent any further disturbances. Hoping that Your Excellency will promptly give effect to a compliance with this request, in which we unitedly concur, We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) Charles Seymour, W. Counsel.

P. Ristelhueber, Consul de France.

" Dr. F. von Mallendorf per Baron Ketteler, Consul for Germany.

" H. B. Cunningham, Vice Consul for Sweden & Norway.

" Charles van Bore, Consul for the Netherlands.

" Rev. R. Wood, Acting Consul for Denmark.

The British Consul sends a dispatch of similar purport

(Adm) No. 2

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 10<sup>th</sup> 1883.

To His Excellency,  
"Chang"  
Viceroy of the Two Luangs,  
Canton.

Sir: In drawing Your Excellency's attention to the lamentable occurrences which have this day resulted in such a destruction of the property of the citizens of various Western Nations in Shamoen, I feel it to be my duty to represent that this destruction is due to the total want of sufficient protection to the foreign settlement; and to the tardy action of the Chinese authorities in sending a military force for our defense.

I must most urgently inform upon Your Excellency the necessity of adopting stringent measures to repress incendiaries and robbers.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul

of the Consulate  
above.  
The letter sent

(Copy)

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~~United States Consulate, Canton, China.~~

H.B.M. S. "Swift"

at Canton 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 1883.

The Respective Consuls,  
Canton.

A meeting held on board  
H.B.M. S. "Swift" this day, of the Commanders of  
the "Men-of-War" in port, it has been decided  
that in case of an outbreak in the Settlement  
the following disposition of the forces at our command  
will be made.

1<sup>st</sup> We consider it imperative that the North  
Bridge be either efficiently blocked up,  
or so far destroyed, as to prevent access  
to the Island - this should be at once  
undertaken by the proper authorities.

2<sup>nd</sup> The Crews of the "Swift" and "Esper" (British) will defend the whole of the Bound  
from the North Bridge, around by and including  
the East Bridge, to a point opposite the North Bridge.

The crews of the "Famega" (Portuguese) and the  
"Lutin" (French) will defend the Bound from  
the North Bridge to the Westward as far as,  
and including the Boat Shed (at the west end of the Island)

The crew of the "Palas" (U.S.) will patrol the  
Southern front of the Bound, from the Boat Shed

at Port House to the Eastward as far as the British Consulate steps (nearly opposite the North Bridge).

3rd We propose the Municipal Council be invited to indicate some central place where the armed forces of the Community could rendezvous.

We have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Yours Obedient Servants.

(Signed-) J. A. Fiddall, Commander R.M.S. "Swift"

" Francis E. Cabella, " S.S. "Famega"

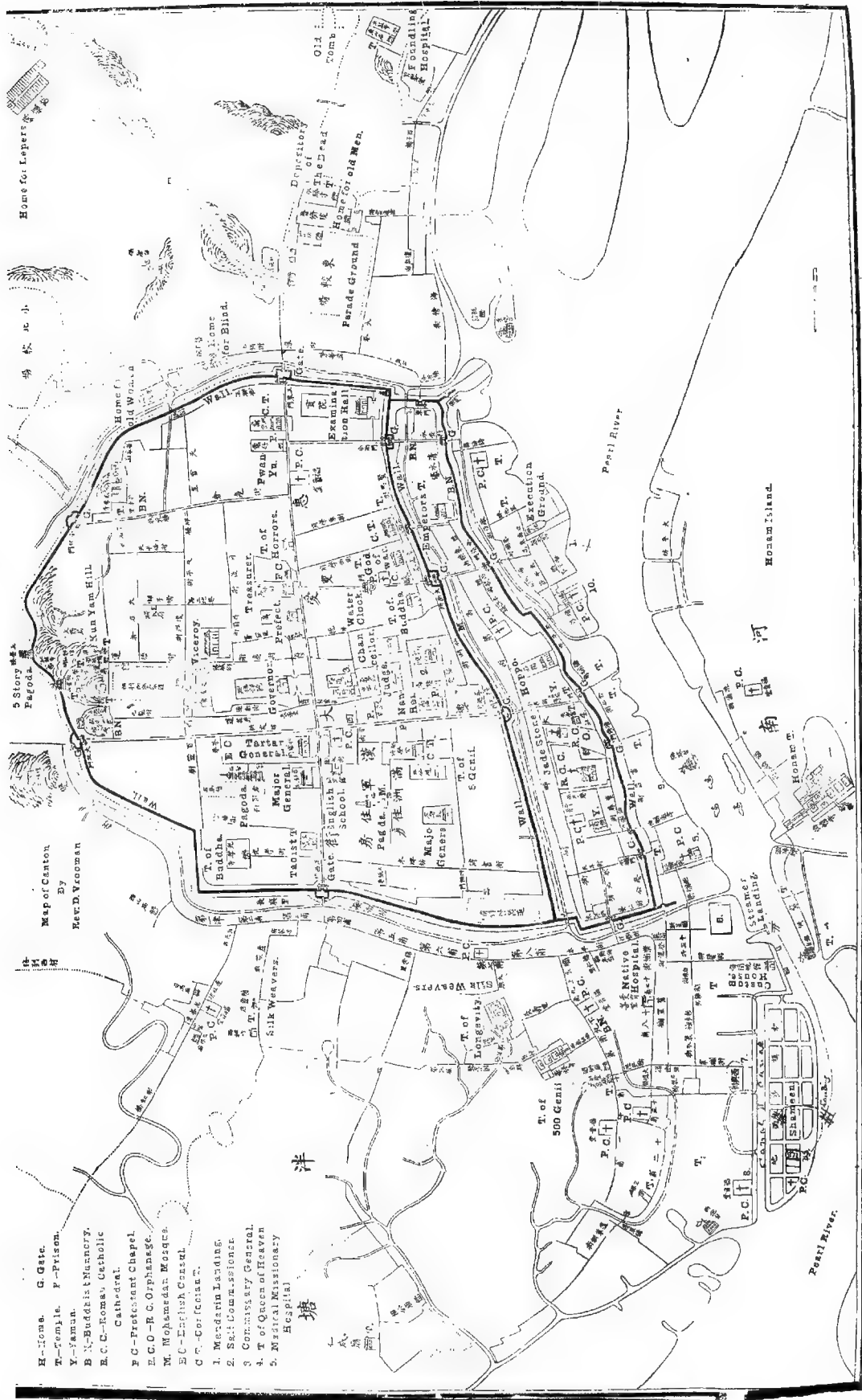
" L. DeBor, Commander S.S. "Lutin"

" Geo. B. Glidden, " M.S. "Palos"

" Edmund R. Gamble " M.S. "Espoir"

Seen by Charles Symonds, M. Consul,  
and disapproved unless outbreak occurs;  
in which case it seems right under certain regulations  
in conformity with action of Councils.

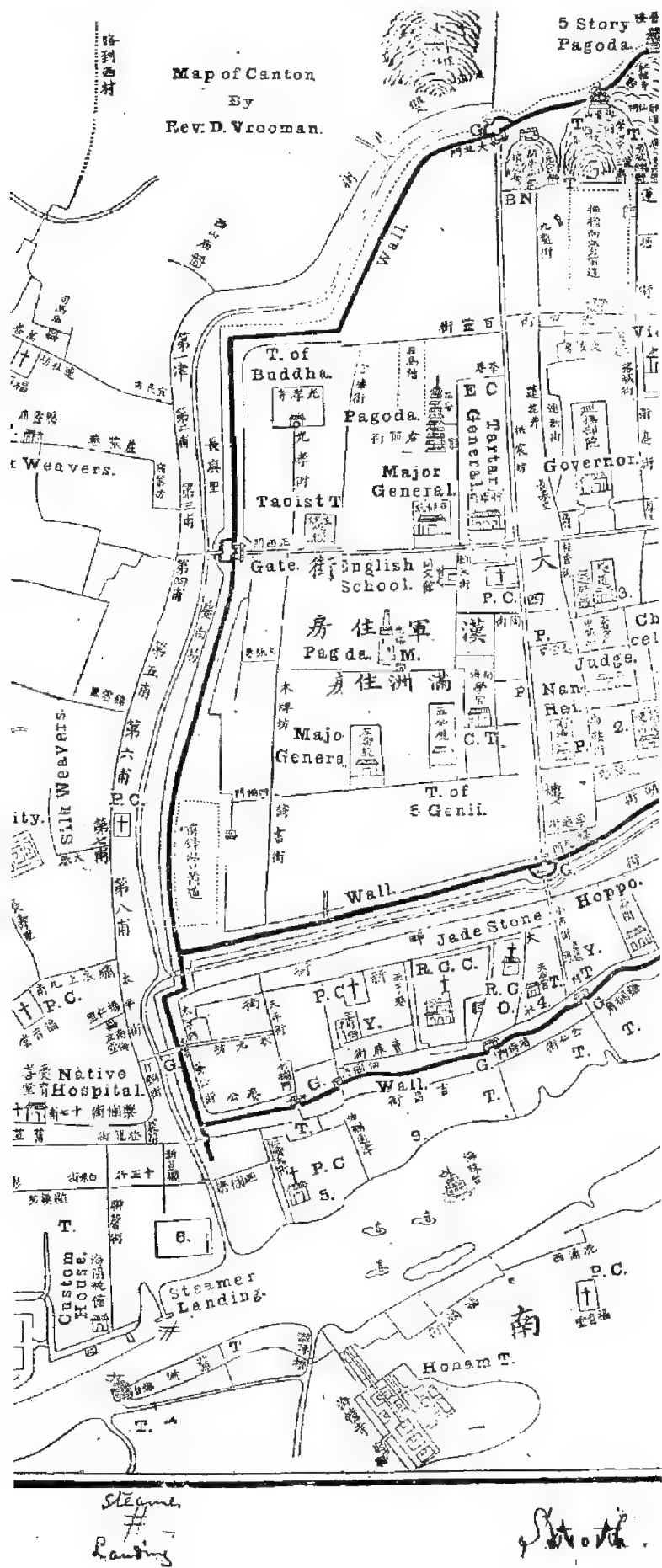
with the object of preventing



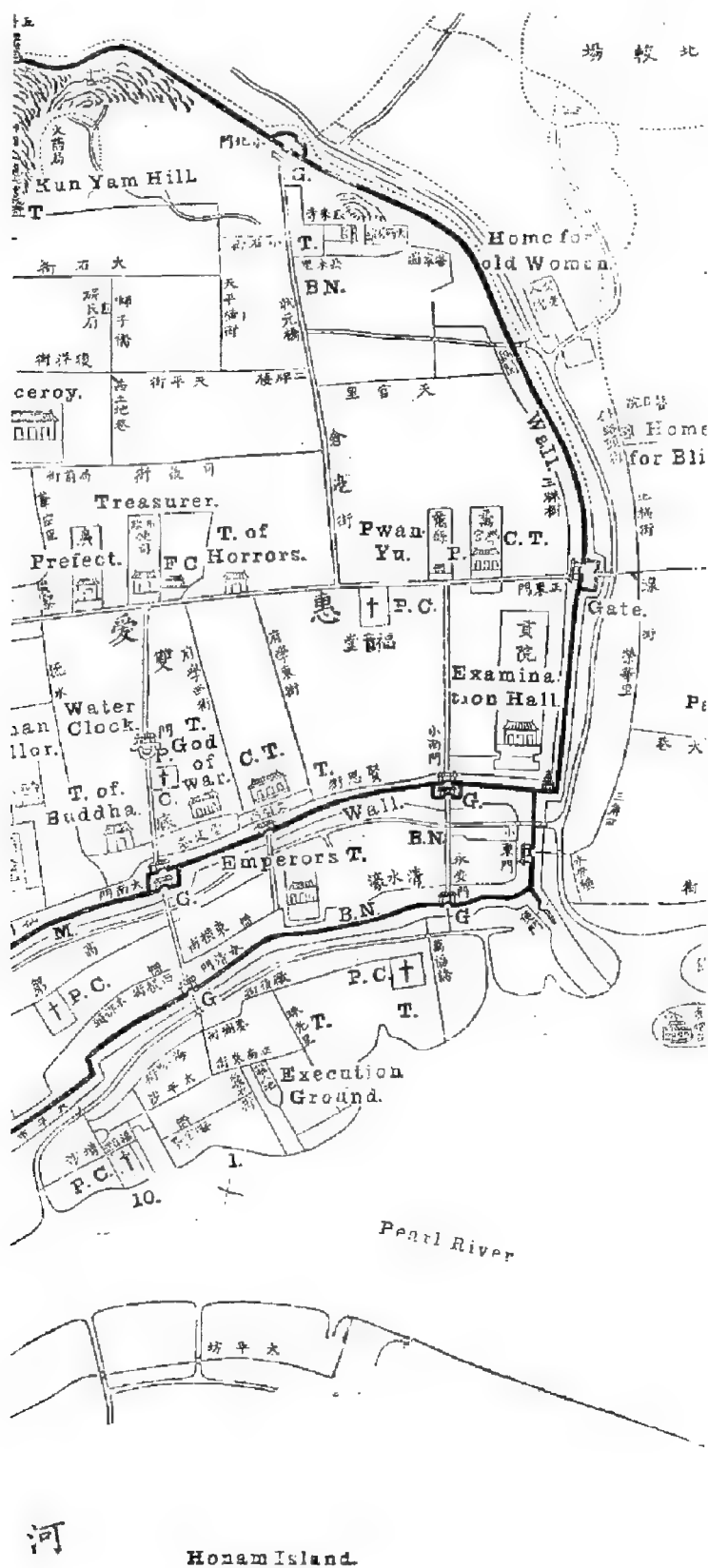




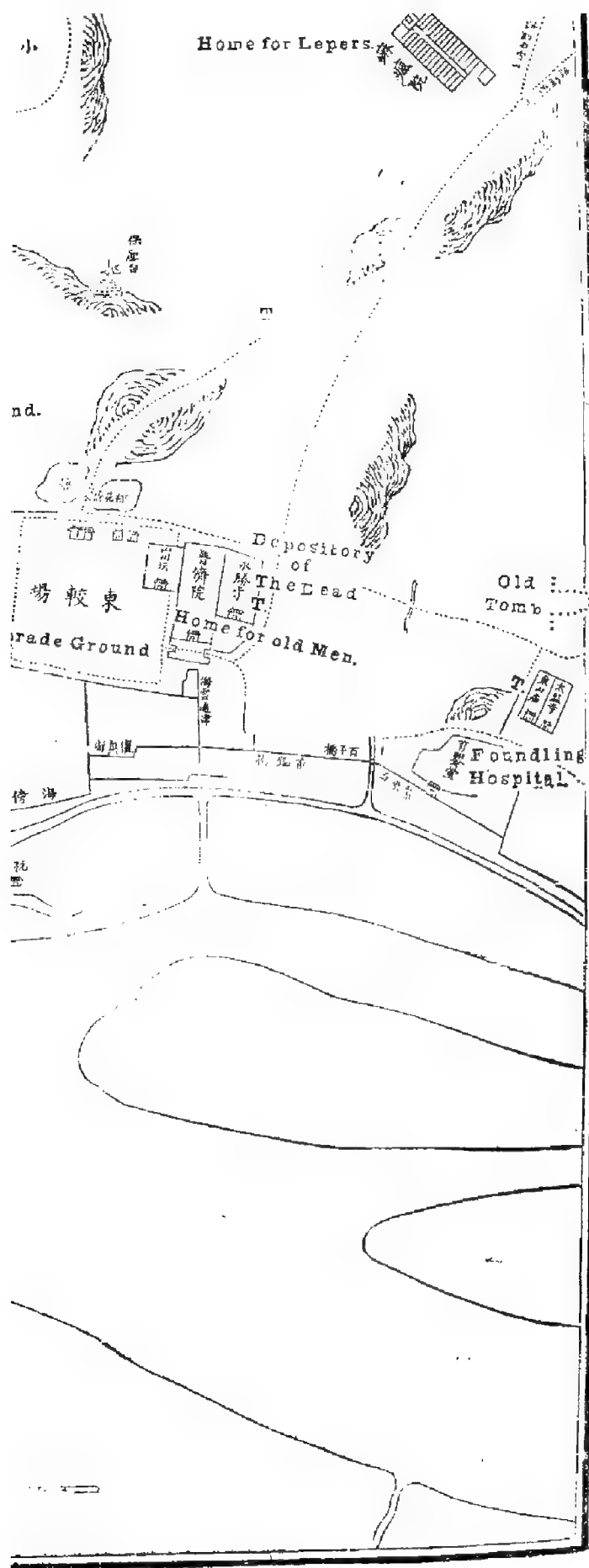
局部图(1)



局部图(2)



局部图(3)



局部图(4)



As, owing to irregularity this winter in the arrivals and departures of steamers running between China and America, nearly a month will elapse before another steamer will leave Hong Kong for San Francisco, I respectfully beg to be permitted to mail to the State Department a copy of this dispatch; and endorse in it a Bill of Lading (freight prepaid) for a box of effects, belonging to the Estate of Ira F. Crowell, shipped to the State Department by the S.S. "Gordon Castle", via Guayaquil, to New York; with *apx* returns, showing what disposition was made of the proceeds of said estate; so that the Bill of Lading and Statement of Effects may be in the possession of the State Department by the time the S.S. "Gordon Castle" arrives in New York.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

*Duplicate-*

Beaver, Falls, Penna  
July 1884,

Received of the Department  
of State of the United  
States, one box contain-  
ing the personal effects of  
Jas J. Crowell, deceased at  
Swatow, China.

*J. J. Crawford*  
Executor in the  
Estate of J. J. Crowell (decd.)

No. 61 HONGKONG, 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 1883

Received from C. Seymour  
for shipment per Gordon Castle  
to New York

MARK & DESCRIPTION.

State Department  
Washington  
U.S.A.  
One box effects

Freight \$ 1  
Stamp 30 (30 for 3 stamps)

\$ 30 paid here Adamson Bell & Co  
J. B. Wheeler  
for Master.

Subject to all the conditions specified in the Bills of Lading for Cargo shipped by this vessel. The Owners will not be responsible for loss of or damage to any package beyond the value of £5, unless a special agreement is made at the time of shipment.

ADAMSON, BELL & CO.,  
Agents.





(FORM No. 87.)

# CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

Consulate of the United States,

*Canton July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1883*

I, *Sidney Hye* Vice Consul of the United States  
at *Canton* do hereby certify that, on this *twenty sixth*  
day of *July* A. D. 1883, at *the residence of Rev<sup>d</sup> A. H. Hopper, D.D.*  
in the city of *Canton*: *Albert Andrew Tilton*  
aged *thirty one* years, born in *Aspland, Ohio* and now  
residing in *Canton* and *Florence Wishard*  
aged *twenty three* years, born in *Rushville, Indiana*  
and now residing in *Canton* were united in marriage before  
me, and in my presence, by *The Rev<sup>d</sup> Andrew H. Hopper, D.D.* who is authorized  
by the laws of *The United States* to perform such a ceremony.

In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of  
the Consulate, at *Canton*, this *twenty sixth*  
day of *July* A. D. 1883, and of the Independence of the United  
States the *one hundred and eighth*.

*Sidney Hye* Consul.





No. 42½



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 21-1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Accounts, Vouchers, and Returns  
to December 31-1883

SYNOPSIS.

Accounts, Vouchers, & Returns.  
Bill of Lading for & Statement of Effects  
of Estate of Ira F. Crowell, deceased.

No. 42½

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 21<sup>st</sup> 1884.

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you  
herewith Account, with Vouchers, and  
Returns, to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1883 - viz:

1<sup>st</sup> Account, with Vouchers, to Dec<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1883.

2<sup>nd</sup> Record of Notarial or Miscellaneous fees.

3<sup>rd</sup> Return of the only deceased American  
Citizen (Estate and effects) L<sup>ate</sup> F. Corwell.

4<sup>th</sup> Digest of Invoice Book.

5<sup>th</sup> Names of persons employed in Consulate.

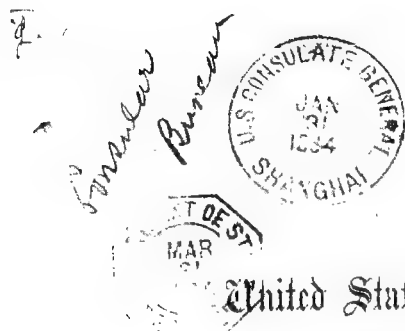
6<sup>th</sup> List of dispatches to the Department in 1883.

7<sup>th</sup> Certificate of the only marriage in 1883.

There is no other business to report.

As, owing to irregularity this winter in the arrivals and departures of steamers running between China and America, nearly a month will elapse before another steamer will leave Hong Kong for San Francisco, I beg respectfully to be permitted to mail to the State Department a copy of this dispatch; and enclose in it a Bill of Lading, <sup>(freight prepaid)</sup> for a box of effects, belonging to the Estate of Eva P. Crowell, shipped to the State Department by the S.S. "Gordon Castle," via Suez Canal, to New York; with a/c & returns, showing what disposition was made of the proceeds of said estate; so that the Bill of Lading and statement of effects may be in possession of the State Department by the time the S.S. "Gordon Castle" arrives in New York.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your obedient servant  
Charles Seymour,  
Consul.



No. 43

McChilton

Appoint

Wm. - m. r.  
Wm. - m. r.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 24. 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adce,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Consular Agencies.

SYNOPSIS.

Swatow, Pakhoi, Huihwa  
or Kium-chow.

No. 43

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 24<sup>th</sup> 1884

H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that since the removal of Mr W<sup>m</sup> T. Jones from Swatow, no one fitted to act as U.S. Consular Agent has been willing to be troubled with the Agency at that place; until, fortunately an excellent and efficient person, Baron von Sckruidoff, German Vice Consul, at Swatow, very kindly consented to take charge of the U.S. Consular Agency, with the permission of his Superior Officers and Government. The German Consul, and the

at Canton & Hong Kong, and the German Legation in Peking consented; and the permission of the German government is being obtained.

In the meantime Baron von Seckendorff is acting as U.S. Consular Agent at Canton, with the cordial approval of American residents and all concerned.

The changes, by transfers and promotions, and other causes, among consular officials of European governments in the East, partly on account of climatic considerations, and partly by reason of systematic training for consular and diplomatic duties and stations, makes it very desirable that some more permanent plan of entrusting U.S. consular agencies to European officials in certain cases and places should be immediately adopted.



While asking for recognition and approval of Baron von Seckendorff by the State Department as U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow, I would respectfully and urgently suggest, that in the event of his removal from Swatow, which might occur soon after the receipt of his Commission, his successor as German Vice Consul should be authorized to succeed him also in the U.S. Consular Agency.

There is little or no business at Swatow requiring Consular Service, except in cases of disaster to American ships on the contiguous coast, and the emoluments of the office are so trifling as to make it undesirable, unless it is used as it has been, apparently, as a branch of some speculator's business in promoting land speculations and private business operations.

At Pakhoi, and Hoikow or Kiumg Chow, there is no Consular business for the U.S. Agency, unless, perchance, some American ship might get wrecked adjacent or contiguous Coasts.

I would respectfully recommend the entire discontinuance of the Agents at those places; unless a permanent arrangement can be made to have the British Vice Consuls simply authorized to act as U.S. Consular Agents in cases of emergency or distress, which might require relief and protection to American Sailors, ships and Cargoes; as the frequent changes of officials in the Consular Service of Great Britain in China reduce commissions from the U.S. Government to persons named alike impracticable and absurd. Between changes there is scarcely time to obtain an agent, and procure consent of his Government, and a Commission from the U.S. Government; which would consume the greater portion of a year.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul



*Rob. & Co.*  
*No. 44* *W. Sullivan*

*12*  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.



*January 31, 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*  
*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Chinophobia.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Certificates issued to Chinamen at Canton.*  
*Movement of Chinese between*  
*the United States and China.*  
*More Chinese from than to the U.S.*

No. 44

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 31-1884

Mr. A. A. Rice

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch No. 40 from the State Department, under date of November 24-1883, informing me that the Secretary of the Treasury, under date of November 14-1883, called attention to statements made to him by the Customs Officers at San Francisco with regard to the arrival at that Port of many Chinese laborers possessing certificates as merchants, students, etc.

issued by the Chinese Customs Officials at Canton"; and that "it appears that the number of merchants or 'traders' arriving from China has steadily increased since the Chinese Superintendent of Customs at Canton has been prepared to issue Certificates; and instructing me, therefore, to examine into the manner of certifying Chinese merchants at Canton, coming to the United States, and the proofs adduced that the applicants are not laborers within the meaning of the Act of May 6<sup>th</sup> 1882, and to report the result of enquiries to the Department, and also to Mr. Young direct"; to all of which my best attention has been given.

27

In compliance with instructions, I have diligently endeavored to get at the facts of the case, in order to present such light and information as were within my reach upon the entire subject under consideration.

To this end, and to make sure of getting correct information as to the officers who issued certificates or passports to enable Chinese to enter the United States, I addressed a communication to His Excellency, the "Hoppo", or Superintendent of Customs, at Canton, respectfully requesting that he would kindly inform me of the name and location of the Chinese official entrusted with the business of issuing passports or certificates to persons going to the United States of America, in order to enable me to ascertain the process necessary for obtaining such certificates, respecting which I am frequently applied to for information.

He replied promptly, definitely, and courteously; and through the Interpreter of this Consulate I sought the needed information. This call upon the Chinese official

designated by the "Hopps", has been followed by three interviews at this Consulate, with the concurrence of the "Hurray" and the "Hopps"; both of whom manifest a sincere desire and a determined purpose to act justly.

The Chinese official entrusted with the business of issuing such certificates seems to have aimed at a true and faithful execution of his duties; by guarding against unworthy applications and applicants for the required certificates, entitling them to enter the United States of America; so far as he could do so, by requiring some reputable business firm to vouch for, and become responsible for, the statements of applicants for certificates, after carefully interrogating the persons in whose favor the certificates were desired; and by requiring a photographic likeness of the applicant or holder of the certificate, to be firmly affixed, under seal, to the certificate before it was issued, as per Form enclosed.

One of those cancelled certificates has been enclosed in my dispatch (of similar passport

to this dispatch) No. 55, under date of 29<sup>th</sup> instant, to the U.S. Minister, at Peking.

Notwithstanding those precautions, the Chinese official in charge of certificates found or detected attempts to obtain his certificates, by misrepresentation, disguise, and substitution; and in all such cases had the certificates cancelled when discovered.

Specimens of such cancelled certificates were placed by him in my possession, for comparison with credentials or certificates found in hands of Chinese passengers on the steamships going to the U.S.

From his official reports, he shows that only eleven hundred and seventy one Certificates have been issued; and each case stands clear by itself; so that any fair examination of it will verify the point of identity; and locate the responsibility for any error, or deception, or fraud, concerning it.

Having thus obtained the facts, so far as could be learned at Canton, the Interpreter of this Consulate was sent to Hong Kong, bearing a letter from me to the U.S. Consul



at that Port, from which nearly all Chinese passengers depart for the United States, requesting his "co-operation, by getting proper permission for comparing certificates in the hands of Chinese passengers" on the outgoing steamer "Arabic" on January 12<sup>th</sup> 1884; but with the notes of both Consuls, accompanied by the Interpreter of the U. S. Consulate at Hong Kong, the Interpreter of this Consulate (a gentleman of remarkable refinement, having for several years been Interpreter in the Supreme Court in Hong Kong, under Chief Justice Smal-) went to the Office of the Agency of the "Pacific Mail Steamship Company" and of the "Oriental and Occidental Steamship Company"; where he was rudely repulsed; and made the vehicle or medium of insolent messages to the subscriber, for "unwarrantable interference with Chinese emigration".

Finding that channel of information closed against a plan agreed upon by the certificate Commissioner

and myself, with the concurrence of the "Viceroy" and "Hoppo", for comparing genuine certificates with the papers or documents held by Chinese passengers on steamers going to the United States; I have carefully examined, and compiled from the files of daily newspapers in Hong Kong, the shipping and passenger statistics for the entire year of 1883, and for the first month of 1884.

From these items I have been surprised to learn the fact is established that the total departures of Chinese from Hong Kong to San Francisco, including those who went to the Hawaiian Islands, and British North America via San Francisco, and to San Francisco via Honolulu, were about two thousand less than the total number of arrivals of Chinese passengers at Hong Kong from San Francisco, during the year A.D. 1883, and for the past thirteen months the excess of arrivals from the U.S. to China, over departures from China to the U.S., exceeds three thousand of Chinese passengers - equivalent to  $\frac{3}{8}$  <sup>th</sup> of the total departures, or  $\frac{3}{10}$  <sup>th</sup> of total arrivals.

No	Arrival	Steamships	Departure	No
Chinese	Hong Kong		Hong Kong	Chinese
	1883			
392	Jan 4	Coptic City of Tokio.	Jan 4	11
368	" 23	Gaelic	" 16	40
250	" 31	Belgie	" 29	38
191	Feb 9	City of Peking.	Feb 7	18
92	" 14	Arabic	" 20	84
x 37	" 27	Oceanic to S.F. via Honolulu	Mch 1	625
x 50	Mch 11	Coptic to S.F. via Honolulu	" 13	437
x 129	" 30	City of Tokio to S.F. via Honolulu	" 27	491
ESTD- <del>140</del>	Apl 16	Gaelic {No report, but estimated about 9th arrivals.}	" 27	471
114	" 20	Belgie	" 27	579
x 153	" 27	City of Peking to S.F. via Honolulu	Apl 13	473
200	May 9	Arabic	" 27	522
174	" 27	Oceanic	{Both discontinued & quit.}	
159	June 3	Coptic	May 5	764
114	" 14	Rio de Janeiro	" 21	174
197	" 26	City of Tokio to S.F. via Honolulu	June 2	255
131	July 14	" " Peking	" 13	100
216	" 28	Arabic	" 26	100
195	Aug 9	Oceanic	July 10	269
254	" 19	Coptic	" 26	140
214	Sep 1	Rio de Janeiro	Aug 8	209
407	" 15	City of Tokio	" 20	76
650	Oct 1	" " Peking	Sep 1	171
680	" 14	Arabic	" 15	189
705	" 27	Oceanic	" 27	233
1050	Nov 9	Coptic	Oct 13	297
640	" 26	Rio de Janeiro	" 27	117
1223	Dec 6	City of Tokio	Nov 17	359
862	" 21	" " Peking	Discontinued	
9882	By estimating only 35 arrivals to Gaelic 3 on April 9th, the spec of arrivals is = 2000 J.		Dec 3	362
			" 14	123
			" 31	155
				erroneously published 1880.
				5000
				1000

Continuing these Chinese passenger returns for the month of January 1884, we find the "Arabic" arrived from San Francisco at Hong Kong on the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, bringing four hundred and thirty one Chinese passengers; and left on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant for San Francisco with eighty five Chinese passengers; and the succeeding steamer "Oceanic", from San Francisco, brought to Hong Kong, on the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, eight hundred and four Chinese passengers; and left on the 28<sup>th</sup> instant, taking fifty five Chinese passengers to San Francisco, and other points.

Those two arrivals, this month =  $\frac{431}{804}$  }  
 Those two departures, this month =  $\frac{85}{55}$  }  $\frac{1235}{140}$

Showing excess of arrivals = 1095  
 in January 1884.

The total arrivals, for 13 months, over departures for the same time, Exceeds 3000; or about 3095; or equivalent to nearly 39 percent of total departures from China to the U.S. & to the Hawaiian Islands, and British North America; nearly fifty per cent of total departures direct to the U.S.

10

From the best sources of information to which I have been able to get access, it appears that out of the total departures of Chinese by the last three steamers, with an aggregate of 295 Chinese passengers, only 12 by the "City of Peking", and only 8 by the "Arabie", and probably about 10 by the "Océanie"; or say only about ten per cent of the total of departures of Chinese passengers, had Chinese certificates to the U.S.

Imputations of dishonesty and bad faith having been so freely made against Chinese officials, in regard to certificates issued at Canton to Chinese passengers to the United States, no certificates have been issued by the Certificate Commissioner since about the middle of November 1883. (Ended 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.)

The discontinuance occurred by <sup>telegraphic</sup> request (as is alleged by apparently authentic officials) of the Chinese Legation in Washington; whose action was about the same date as that of the Secretary of the Treasury.

It will be in the power of U.S. officials at San Francisco to ascertain the nature of the documents supplied to Chinese passengers, from China to the United States, in lieu of the required certificates from Chinese officials at Canton; and at this point might have been involved in the concealment of facts by the Steamship Companies and their officers in Hong Kong, I deem it proper to leave that branch of the business in the hands of those who are clothed with due authority to penetrate the mystery.

Truly  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the Chinese passengers of 1883 went to the Hawaiian Islands; so that it is safe to say that only about six thousand Chinese went to the United States and British North America.

Of that number it is reasonable to assume there were 1171 holders of Chinese certificates, thus leaving about 4829 otherwise supplied with documents from San Francisco or elsewhere.

12/

If one half of the 9882 Chinese passengers who arrived from San Francisco during 1883 were visitors to their native country, and returned <sup>(or to return)</sup> to the United States, with certificates from San Francisco, the entire movement of Chinese passengers between the two countries would be accounted for, both ways.

It should be an easy matter to verify or upset this estimate by reference to the records of the U. S. Custom House and Chinese Consulate in San Francisco.

It seems to be generally understood, that, in the absence of any credentials or certificates whatever, the Chinese passengers who desire to go to the United States can do so, under the operation of proceedings, by virtue of the Habeas Corpus Act, upon arrival of such passengers in the United States.

It will be interesting to note the frequency of such proceedings since the discontinuance of certificates issued at Canton by the Chinese Commissioner.

We are just now in the midst of festivities attending the "Chinese New Year"; which commenced on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> instant; or about ten days earlier than previous "New Year's Day" - varying with the lunar changes and developments.

Business is suspended throughout the Empire. All solvent Chinese have adjusted their affairs. The public and private seals are locked up. Families, kindred, clansmen, and friends, assemble for festive enjoyments, which are prolonged through the month of February, or first moon of the new year, if means are adequate. From far and near, "absent friends" are expected to return home, for participation in the New Year's festivities.



Filial Devotion impels the sons of China in distant lands to make any reasonable sacrifice in efforts to "keep the feast" with "the old folks at home".

A due appreciation of these facts will serve to explain the statistics of Chinese arrivals and departures herein embodied (on pages 809); a reference to which will demonstrate that for three or four months previous to the Chinese New Year, the tide of Chinese passengers is strongly toward China; and that for the three months succeeding February (or Chinese First Moon) the tide of Chinese passengers tends strongly toward America.

These facts serve to confirm the idea, that, outside of the visiting and returning Chinese passengers, there has not been during the past year any indications of any rush of Chinese to America.

I went into this investigation without prejudice; and must adopt the verdict of the fellow who heard the pig—"Great-ory-little-wood".

21

A careful inspection of the items herein stated, in connection with the uproar and clamor raised in regard to alleged invasion of the United States by vast multitudes of Chinese laborers, invests the subject with the appearance of a hobgoblinish phantasmagoria; which, for the want of a better name, might be designated as "China-phobia".

It is difficult to conceive a plan, for the regulation of Chinese passengers to and from the United States, that will secure greater accuracy than the one that was in operation last year, provided identification of the rightful holders of genuine certificates could be secured.

Certainly no foreigner in China possesses such facilities, for the investigation of claims of applicants for certificates, as the Chinese officials; and it may be regarded as a well-established fact, that they are not favorable to the emigration of natives.

The step toward proper identification of the rightful holders of certificates issued by the duly authorized Chinese official in Canton might be in the transmission of a duplicate certificate, direct from the Commissioner who issues the certificate, to the Collector of Customs, through the Chinese Consul, at the port of arrival, to be opened in the presence of both officials.

This would establish authenticity of the certificate; and, with proper vigilance and care on their part, the identification of the holder of the certificate could be made.

Transfers of certificates, and substitution of holders, so easily made, that it would be out of the power of any Consular Officers at Canton or Hong Kong to prevent frauds of that nature; while they would not be able to investigate the claims of applicants for certificates with any degree of thoroughness and accuracy, if the natives were disposed to deception or deceit.

Regretting the severity of  
many denunciations in America  
against Chinese officials; which  
are numerited, in regard to intercourse  
between the United States and China;  
and do not tend to promote good  
feeling and friendly relations  
between the two countries;

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,  
Minister.

One enclosure

viz:

1  
A

Cancelled Chinese  
Passenger Certificate.

No. 25.

DEPARTMENT OF HIS IMPERIAL CHINESE MAJESTY'S  
SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS.

Canton, 2nd November 1883.

I, the undersigned, His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Superintendent of Customs in the Kwang-tung Province, hereby certify that *Lum Tze Choy*, a subject of the Empire of China, to whom this certificate is issued, is entitled under the provisions of the Treaty of the sixth year of the Emperor Kwang-Sü, i.e. 1880 between China and the United States, to go and come of his free will and accord to the United States on the presentation of the same to the Collector of Customs of the American port at which he shall arrive.

The required description of his person follows:

NAME.

AGE.

OCCUPATION.

*Lum Tze Choy. Twenty two. Trader.*

RESIDENCE.

HEIGHT.

COMPLEXION.

*Am Hwai District. Five ft. nine in. Dark.*

COLOR OF EYES.

PHYSICAL PECULIARITIES.

OFFICIAL TITLE.

*Black.*

*Nose.*



崇 (Chung.)

SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS.

Per Deputy

席寶書

(Shi Fan Shoo)

# 護照

欽命督理粵海關稅務崇

為

發給護照事茲有華人林梓材係照光緒六年即西歷一千八百八十年中國與美國續修條約應准任便往來美國之人合給護照俾到美國埠時交稅關查驗放行並將本人姓名年貌各項列後

計開

姓名林梓材

年歲二十二

事業

向在國貿易現任金山大車轉性餘為畢永隆洋行貨店司事

住址新會縣

身材英五尺九寸

面色

紫

眼色黑

異相粘映相

職銜

無

可疑

右給華人林梓材收執

光緒九年十月

初貳

日給

扣銷

地字第貳拾伍號

*Mr. Chilton*  
*It seems to me that*  
*copy of dispatch No. 45 should go to*  
*Mr. General*  
*perhaps*  
United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
February 20<sup>th</sup> 1884 *W.F.*



FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

*Chinamen's certificates.*

SYNOPSIS

*Continuation of statements in*  
*dispatch No. 44, dated January 31<sup>st</sup>*  
*1884, to the State Department; direct*  
*in compliance with instructions.*

No. 45

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 20<sup>th</sup> 1884

Mr. A. A. Abdee

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with instructions from the State Department, in confirmation of the statements in my dispatch No. 44, dated January 31<sup>st</sup> 1884, in regard to Chinese passengers' certificates, to inform you, that, after receiving that dispatch, specific cases of such certificates, alleged to have been held by persons who had no right, under existing Treaty, between China and the United States, to enter them, came to my knowledge through published reports of proceedings in a California Court.



Whereupon, I immediately addressed to His Excellency, Tsung, the "Hoppo," or Superintendent of Customs, in Canton, a communication bearing date of February 7<sup>th</sup> 1884, as per Copy hereto affixed, and designated "A. A," requesting more definite information in regard to the certificates, specified by numbers, and mentioned in San Francisco journals, as having been produced in Court, bearing evidence of having been fraudulently used or obtained by Chinese passengers.

Nine days having elapsed without getting any reply from the "Hoppo," I sent to him a note, dated February 18<sup>th</sup> 1884, as per<sup>copy</sup> designated "B. B.," hereto affixed, requesting the favor of an answer to my communication, in time to enable me to send the required information, per first mail steamer, to the United States Government.

Some allowance should be made, on account of the general observance of the "Chinese New Year" festivities, for suspension of business, and failure to get reply to my communication to the "Hopfoo" dated February 7<sup>th</sup> 1884.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1884, I received from the "Hopfoo" acknowledgments of my communications of 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> instant, and information that he had submitted the former one (dated 7<sup>th</sup> inst) to the "Board of Administration" (composed of high Chinese Officials, subordinate to, and co-operating with the Viceroy), designated by the Chinese title of "Shan Hai Chie"; and that he would communicate to me their answer after due consideration.

In the meantime, the Certificate Commissioner, "Shew-Pow-Shü", has assured me that no one except himself has been or is authorized in the Province of "Quang-Tung" (Canton); and has this day sent to me a written detailed statement of the several certificates, specified by the San Francisco Bulletin as having been found in possession of Chinese passengers from Oceania at San Francisco about the middle of December 1883, not entitled to certificates. The Chinese copy affixed as "C.C."

The numbers thus specified as fraudulently used or obtained were 623, 836, 837, 908, 962 & 983. According to the official records of the Certificate Commission the facts are as follow. N<sup>o</sup> 623, alleged to have been issued to <sup>held by</sup> "Chen Foon Law", trader, who had been in California before, and declared in Court in San Francisco that he was an actor, and had not been previously in the United States; was issued Sept 24, 1883, in favor of "Mah Loong Tim", 35 years of age, returning to the United States, and vouched for by a respectable boot & shoe shop keeper named "Mah Sam Hok", as security. Any other certificate than that issued by Commissioner "Shek Pow Shii", bearing N<sup>o</sup> 623 was probably unauthorized or fraudulent.

N<sup>o</sup> 836, alleged to have issued to and held by "Chun Wun Kai", trader, and stating he had been previously in the U.S., while he declared in Court that he had not been in America before; was issued by Commissioner "Shek Pow Shii", October 14<sup>th</sup> 1883, in favor of "Low Loong", returning to the U.S. (ages 35 years) and vouched for by a respectable dealer in stationery named (shop name) Low On. Any other certificate bearing N<sup>o</sup> 836 was apparently unauthorized or fraudulent.

No. 837, alleged to have been held by Lau Kow, or Low Kow, trader, returning to the U.S. although the holder declared in Court that he had never been in the U.S. previously; was issued by the Commissioner, to Lau Kow, or Low Kow, as returning to the U.S. (43 years of age), vouched for by the same Shopkeeper as No. 836.

This may have been a case of substitution, which could easily be detected by photograph.

No. 908, was issued to "Lai Tow King", on <sup>accountant in an silk merchandise store,</sup> on representation of being 24 years of age, and his security, or voucher being a stocking maker, whose shop is known as "Lee Kam Tsuen".

The copy of certificate on file in Canton does not describe him as returning but going to U.S.

This may be another case of substitution; or, if not, the fraudulent representation, if established, can be severely dealt with in Canton.

No. 962, described as alleged, held by and issued to "Ng A. Yau", aged 22 years, as returning to the U.S. Secured in Canton by a shoe-maker shop known as "Ng Flee Wing".

If fraud is established, the guilty person, whether holder or surety, can and will be punished. Certificate issued Oct 26/87.

No. 983, alleged to have been held by the "Ng Ming Chuan", on pretense of returning to the U.S., was issued by the Commissioner to "Yui-Kok-Nam", aged 42 years, with well known shop or firm named Yui-Chan Chiu, in the jade-stone business. Certificate was issued Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 1883.

If any of the certificates that have been found thoroughly fraudulent could be sent here to be compared with official records, the fraud might be detected and punished. The sureties are liable to penalties and costs if any misrepresentation has been made.

If any care is taken in regard to identification, it will not be easy to evade the law.

In addition to the Chinese passenger business between the ports of San Francisco, I have ascertained that sailing ships between ~~San Francisco~~ ports on the American Coast north of San Francisco, and the port of Hong Kong, carry Chinese passengers, that may be approximately estimated at about one thousand each way.

If any clearly established case of fraud can be proved in an authentic shape, accompanied by the Certificate issued by any one not designated as Commissioner of Passenger Certificates; or accompanied by one of his certificates issued on misrepresentation, or on fictitious claims of any kind; I will, if permitted by the State Department, make it my duty to test the value or security of the vouchers required and taken by the Chinese official or Commissioner in Canton, in issuing such certificates.

Nearly all of the Chinese passengers to and from the United States belong to this Province of Kwang-Tung; and I am sure the Chinese authorities will do their utmost to conduct this business on a fair and true basis; and discourage fraud of every kind.

I am, Sir, Most Respectfully,

Charles Seymour  
McLeans

3 Affixtures  
A.A.  
B.B.  
C.C.

H. A.

(Copy)

United States Consulate,  
Canton, China,  
February 7<sup>th</sup> 1884.

To His Excellency,

Samg,  
The "H. A.,"  
or Superintendent of Customs,  
Canton.

Sir:

I have the honor to respectfully ask you to be kind enough to aid me in explaining, to the Government of the United States of America, some matters that are invested with mystery, in regard to the certificates held by Chinese passengers arriving in San Francisco.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January 1884, I had the honor of addressing to Your Excellency a letter, asking for the name and location of the Chinese official who is entrusted with the business of issuing passports or "certificates" to persons going to the United States of America; and you were kind enough to inform me that his name is "Shew-Pow Shui," who has communicated to me

the information as to the manner in which those certificates were issued; and that none had been issued since November 10<sup>th</sup> 1883; up to which time eleven hundred and seventy one certificates had been issued <sup>in all</sup>.

Since my reply to the communications from my government on this business, in which I adopted the statements of Mr. "Sheh-Pow-Shui" as my basis; it has come to my knowledge that examinations of Chinese passengers who arrived at San Francisco about the middle of December 1883, per Steamship "Oceanic", which left Hong Kong November 17<sup>th</sup> 1883, disclosed the facts that many holders of certificates, purporting to have been issued by Chinese officials in Canton, were not entitled to them under the Treaty between China and the United States of America.

The examinations of Chinese passengers in the California Courts showed that some one else besides "Sheh-Pow-Shui" has been issuing certificates; and I therefore ask whether you have learned of any one besides "Sheh-Pow-Shui" having issued certificates.



The name of "Chang" or "Chun" was affixed to the certificates which appeared to have been fraudulently obtained, or issued, and used.

In addition to information above asked, please inform me to whom, or in whose favor, were issued Certificates numbered 623, 836, 837, 908, 962 and 983; as the holders of those numbers are reported to have conferred in the California Court that the certificates they held were not fraudulent.

I regret very much to trouble Your Excellency with these matters at this time, when the festivities of the "New Year" in China should not be marred by business; but I respectfully plead urgency in this case, in order that I may immediately reply to the United States Government, and to its Legation at Peking, in regard to this business.

With compliments and esteem, herewith please find Card of,

Three affixtures

A. A.  
S. B.  
C. C.

Very Respectfully,

Charles Seymour  
Consul of the United States of America

"B H B"

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 16<sup>th</sup> 1887  
To His Excellency, Tsung,  
The "Hoppo",  
Canton.

The American  
Consul sends his compliments  
and card, and respectfully  
requests - that answer may  
be made to his communication  
in regard to Chinese passenger  
certificates, in time to enable  
him to send full dispatch  
on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> instant,  
to the Government of the United  
States, per Steamship mail,  
leaving Hong Kong on the  
following day.

Very Respectfully  
Charles Seymour  
W. L. Brown!

C. H. C.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 20<sup>th</sup> 1884

Below will be found copy of the Chinese Certificate Commissioner's statements in regard to certificates numbered 823, 836, 837, 908, 962 & 983, alleged to have been held by passengers arriving in San Francisco fraudulently. The substance of the Chinese statements are given in English on pages 4, 5 & 6 of Dispatch No. 45 to State Department.

劉能泰閣南 四十二歲 新會縣人 復往金山金利市埠廣 華源大商店司事 金贊照 担保新街環玉泰店 九年九月廿七日填	劉能伍阿祐 二十二歲 新會縣人 復往金山咖啡市那保和 堂藥材店司事 伍時永 担保馬樓街三色雜店 九年九月十六日填	劉能黎圖敬 二十歲 鶴山人 現往金山埠和綸 蘇杭貨店司事 李鑑泉 担保政教街錦源雜店 九年九月廿一日填	劉能劉求 四十三歲 新會縣人 復往美國埠廣利 記什貨店生理 劉安 担保弟甯隆隆筆店 九年九月十四日填	劉能劉隆 三十五歲 新會縣人 復往美國埠福和 什貨店生理 劉安 担保弟甯隆隆筆店 九年九月十四日填	馬龍龍添 三十五歲 新會縣人 復往金山埠靈港 記烟行生理 馬心龍 担保關前阜生雜店 九年八月十四日填
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*No. 46*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*April 15<sup>th</sup> 1884*

*and. H. Morrison  
Aug 11/84*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Enclosing Quarterly Account  
and Returns for  $\frac{1}{4}$  ending  
March 31<sup>st</sup> 1884.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 46

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 15 - 1884

Mr. A. A. Ades

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you  
herewith Account, with vouchers; and  
Returns for Quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March  
1884.

I am, Sir, Very Resp<sup>ly</sup>  
Your Obedient Servant  
Charles Seymour  
W. Consul

Enclosures

1. Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscell. Expenses.
2. Vouchers in Duplicate No. 1 to No. 12.
3. Digest of Invoice Book.
4. Statement that no other Returns are to be made.



*Lt. Col.*

*No. 47*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*April 25-1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alder,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Ac Ky No 46, and enclosing  
Vouchers required by Department  
from M. Consular Agency at Swatow.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Swatow Interpreter's receipts  
for first and third quarters of 1882.*

No. 47

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1884

W. A. A. Rice

Third Asst. Secy of State  
Washington D C

Sir:

I have the honor to  
acknowledge receipt of dispatch  
N<sup>o</sup>. 46, dated January 31<sup>st</sup> 1884,  
from the State Department, requiring  
✓ vouchers for salary of Interpreter  
at U. S. Consular Agency in Swatow,  
for first and third quarters of 1883,  
which are enclosed. The same having  
just now come to hand.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Charles Seymour  
Consul



*Copy to Treasury  
June 25/84  
No. 48*

*Leg. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 12<sup>th</sup> 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alder,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Chinese Export Duty .*

SYNOPSIS.

*A Rtg State Department's No. 45,  
enclosing Copy of letter from  
Sec'y of Treas'y about Income No. 690,  
and "Export duty," in China .*



No. 48

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 12<sup>th</sup> 1884

Hon. A. A. Odell.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of State Department dispatch numbered 45, dated January 28<sup>th</sup> 1884; enclosing copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury; requiring information touching Chinese "Export Duty," with special reference to Invoice No. 690, certified at this Consulate on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 1883; in reply to all of which, I have to make the following statements.

1/

The Invoice referred to was four Cases containing 325 doz silk handkerchiefs of the dutiable value of \$1681.92 = \$5.14<sup>2</sup>/<sub>10</sub> Mex.<sup>n</sup> per dozen. That seems to be an honest valuation. Among the non-dutiable "Charges" in that Invoice is the item of "Chinese Duty, \$85.32 Mexican".

The Chinese Export Duty on such merchandise, payable at the Custom House before the permit is issued, to authorize shipment of the goods, amounts to twelve taels (of the Hai Kwan standard of silver) per picul of one hundred catties in weight.


The Hai Kwan Tael of silver is equivalent to about One and <sup>5</sup>/<sub>100</sub> Mexican dollars in Canton; but the value fluctuates, with scarcity or abundance of silver.

The Catty is equivalent to one pound and a third of a pound ("avoirdupois") in weight, or =  $2\frac{1}{3}$  ounces.

The picul consists of one hundred catties; and is therefore equal to  $133\frac{1}{3}$  lbs.

Fairbanks' scales are used at the Chinese Custom House; and great care is observed by the foreign Clerks or officials of the Customs Department to secure accuracy of weights.

Assuming that \$18.60 duty was exacted and paid as Export duty on the four cases of handkerchiefs, four and a half piculs, or about six hundred pounds, should have been about the weight of the silk Mdz in the four cases.

As there seems to be no mystery or complication whatever in regard to the Mdz in said Invoice No. 690; which was from the highly reputable and long established English firm of Messrs Thomas, Bone and Smith; carrying Mdz sold to a merchant in San Francisco, named Messrs J. R. Simon & Co; marked 

4

But the Secretary of the Treasury discloses a fact in his letter which the Collector of Customs at San Francisco may properly bring to the notice of the Treasury Department - viz: that Invoices certified at Hong Kong also included "export duty"; and this brings up and revives an old contest which I have no desire to engage in, after long and somewhat bitter correspondence has passed back and forth between the State Department and the Consulates at Canton & Hong Kong, in regard to restricting Consular Certificates to Invoices of Chinese merchandise to a Chinese Consulate instead of allowing them to be certified at a Chinese Consulate or at a British Consulate, at the option of the shippers.

You do not permit Invoices of goods bought in France, for shipment to the United States, to be certified at a Consulate in Belgium or England.

In this matter I am persuaded, from a perusal of by-gone correspondence, that the State Department, and the Treasury Department, have both departed from the straight course; and permitted Chinese, British, German and American shippers of Chinese merchandise to systematically amuse, set aside, disregard and over-ride all rules and regulations and laws, which call for Consular Certificates from the Consulates of countries from which goods are shipped to the United States.

In proof of this statement, it is only necessary to refer to the fact, that the records of this Consulate do not show one single instance, during many past years, of an Chinese shipper or exporter of merchandise going to the United States, getting his invoice certified in Canton; notwithstanding numerous Chinese are constantly shipping merchandise from Canton to the United States.

Hong Kong is not a seat of manufactures. Canton is a great manufacturing center.

Hong Kong is a free-port, with no Custom House; and has nothing to do with import or export duties; while Canton has both Imperial and Native Customs; and collects both import and export duties.

Why should an invoice of Chinese goods bought in, and shipped from Canton, for merchants in the United States, be certified in Hong Kong; or, if certified, why should the item of "export duties" be recognized as a non-dutiable item at the U.S. Custom House?

One of the large Exporters or Shippers of Canton goods to the United States, the German firm of Messrs. Arnold, Harberg & Co., having houses both in Canton and Hong Kong, never get an invoice certified in Canton.

Some other firms also persist in a similar course; if the State and Treasury Departments approve of it, I shall not object; but please maintain a consistent course.

And while on the subject of  
 services, it is proper to  
 state, that numerous complaints  
 have been made at this Consulate,  
 by reputable exporters and shippers  
 of merchandise from Canton to  
 the United States, that their con-  
 stitutions and correspondents and  
 customers in America have been  
 compelled to pay duty on "charges",  
 which the U.S. Tariff Law of  
 March 1883 clearly exempted  
 from duty; and that they had been  
 compelled to pay to the U.S. Customs  
 duty on packages, duty on Export  
 duty, &c. &c., to the complete  
 and utter disregard of items  
 thus specified in Consular invoices.

I have been asked to call the  
 attention of the State & Treasury  
 Departments to these matters.

Notably have these complaints been made  
 in reference to non-exemption from duty, at the  
 Wharves Houses, of packages containing fire-crackers,  
 which packages are only necessary for use in transportation;  
 these never included in ordinary notice to office.

Another item in connection with Consular Invoices should be mentioned; and will, I trust, be received with attention to a suggested remedy.

The Consular Officer is required to issue Certificates in quadruplicate instead of triplicate, for triplicate fee, when the cargo goes in transit through one port (of arrival) to a second port (of entry); but the Consular Officer is required to send one of the certified invoices to the Collector of the port of entry; whereas he should be required also to send one of the certified invoices to the Collector of the port of first arrival.

Why? Because the invoice which should reach the Collector of port of first arrival often gets into the hands of the Shippers who cash the drafts drawn against the cargo; or into the hands of the Carriers, who use them in obtaining bonds of indemnity from connecting Carriers against liability for duties; &c. &c.

Numerous instances of the failure of invoices to reach the Collectors at ports of first arrival have come to my knowledge.



I would respectfully suggest that the Consular Officer be required, besides keeping one copy of the invoice on file at the Consulate, to send one copy to each of the Collectors of the two Ports at which the duty appears - first in transit, & secondly on arrival.

Having been compelled to supply so many extra copies gratuitously, to make good the deficiency, after the full quadruplicate invoice, has been certified to, I make the suggestion as an act of justice to all concerned.

And, as the Treasury Department may be glad to supply the Collectors of Ports, at which duty from China may be entered, with a memorandum of the "Export Duty" collected by Chinese Customs; I will append the list of such items as are likely to require reference occasionally.

I am, Sir, Very respectfully,  
Your obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
W. Seymour

Articles.	Quantity.	Export Duty, China.			
		Tael.	Sh.	Candarine.	Cash.
Trinidelle, Star	Per 100 Cattie		5	00	
" , broken	" " "		9	50	
" , oil	" " "	5	00	00	
Wanboonware	" " "		7	50	
Waxes	" thousand		5	00	
Cassia, lignea	" 100 Cattie		6	00	
" , buds	" " "		8	00	
" , twigs	" " "		1	50	
" , oil	" " "	9	00	00	
Shinware, fine	" " "		9	00	
" , coarse	" " "		4	50	
Crinites, antique	5 per cent ad valorem	-	-	-	-
Fans, feather	per hundred		7	50	
" , paper	" "		4	50	
" , blue trim'd	" thousand		3	60	
" , " nutrim'd	" "		2	00	
Glass, beads	" 100 Cattie		5	00	
Iron Cloth, fine	" " "	2	5	00	
" , coarse	" " "		7	50	
Wormware	" Catty		1	50	
Engraved ware	" 100 Cattie	1	00	00	
Mattings	" roll of 40 yds		2	00	
Paper, 1 <sup>st</sup> quality	Per 100 Cattie		7	00	
" , 2 <sup>d</sup> "	" " "		4	00	

Ganton, China, May 12<sup>th</sup> 1884. The "Export Duty" on the articles here specified is correct.

Charles H. Pearson  
W. L. G. Ward

1 Tael = 100 Sh.  
1 Sh. = 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a Tael or 15 1/2 cts. U.S.  
1 Candarine = 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a Tael or 1 1/2 cts. U.S.  
1 Cash equal to about one mill or 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a cent.

Chinese Exports Duty		Ticks	Stamps	Per Hundred
Pictures & paintings	Each		1	00
" on pith or rice paper	per hundred		1	00
Battery, Earthenware	Per 100 Catty's			50
Spices	" " "		5	00
Kattans, Spelt	" " "		2	50
Kattamware	" " "		3	00
Rhubarb	" " "	1	2	50
Sandalwood ware	Per Catty		1	00
<u>Silk</u> - viz:				
raw & thrown	Per 100 Catty's	10	0	00
yellow from Szechuen	" " "	7	0	00
reared from Dupions	" " "	5	0	00
wild & raw	" " "	2	5	00
Refuse	" " "	1	0	00
Cocoons	" " "	3	0	00
flow Canton	" " "	4	3	00
" from other Provinces	" " "	10	0	00
ribbons & thread	" " "	10	0	00
Piece-goods, pongees, shawls, } scarfs, crapes, satin, gauzes, } velvet & embroidered goods &c }	per 100 Catty's -	12	0	00
Piece goods from Szechuen & Shantung	Per 100 Catty's	4	5	00
Silk tangles	" " "	10	0	00
" Caps	per hundred		9	00
Silk & Cotton mixtures	Per 100 Catty's	5	5	00

Chinese Export Duty		Tael = about \$1.55 Mex.	Maas = about 1/10th of Tael = 15.5¢	Candarine, = 1/100th of Tael	Carb. tax, etc.
Catty = 133 1/3 lbs					
Silver plated ware	Per 100 Catties	10	0	0	0
Tea	" " "		4	0	0
Shan Maid	" " "		7	0	0
Sugar, brown	" " "		1	2	0
" , white	" " "		2	0	0
Tea	" " "	2	5	0	0
Wood ware	" " "	1	1	5	0

Catty = 1 1/3 lb.

100 Catties = 1 picul or 133 1/3 lb.

~~Tael~~

1 Hai Kuan Tael = about \$1.55 Mex

1 Maas = 1/10th of a Tael.

1 Candarine = 1/100th of a Tael.

Carb. = about one mill.



*St Clair*  
No. 49

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*May 13<sup>th</sup> 1884*

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Abbe,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

*Amid acts  
interpreter mar 21/85  
Instructed to  
Kien chow Pakhoi  
if Consul approve  
Mar 31/85*

Subject.

*Nominations; and Correction or  
Revision of Register*

SYNOPSIS.

*Vice Consul at Canton, Liden Nye.  
Consular Agents. { At Swatow, Baron van Ledenhoff.  
                          { At Kienchow or Hoikow, Thomas Watters  
                          { At Pakhoi, Octavius Johnson.  
Interpreter (Chinese), Canton, Chinn Poy Koo.  
Writer (Chinese), Canton, Lee-U. Lin.  
Comptable " Charles Lee Sheng.*

US Consulate General  
Shanghai May 20 1884  
I approve of the within  
nominations.

FW Cheskie  
Vice Consul General  
in charge

No. 49

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 13<sup>th</sup> 1884H<sup>on</sup>. A. A. Adee.Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to make  
the following nominations as  
required by Consular Rules and Regulations.

Vice Consul, Canton, is Gideon Nye; who  
was duly Commissioned in 1882, and  
has been retained, and desires to continue  
in that capacity, with my approval. O.K.

Baron von Sickingen, Legation, the German  
Consul at that Port, with the Consent of the  
Government of Germany, is acting very  
acceptably and efficiently, as United  
States Consular Agent at Swatow, China.

I think we  
have written  
for the Cons.  
me an  
O.K.

I believe the American citizens at Swatow and vicinity unitedly approve of that selection; and recognize in Baron von Sickenhoff a capable and friendly Officer. The former Consular Agent, Wm. T. Jones, returned to the United States; and no one suitable could be found to take the Agency, until Baron von Sickenhoff kindly consented, with permission of his Government, to act as U.S. Consular Agent at Swatow, commencing November 1<sup>st</sup> 1883.

The. Watters (British Consul) since April 20<sup>th</sup> 1884, has acted as U.S. Consular Agent at Kingchow, as successor to J. M. Jordan, removed to some other locality; and, if that Agency is to be continued by the State Department, the British Consul is the only person qualified to act as U.S. Consular Agent at Kingchow - the real port being Haichow, but in the Kingchow District.



At Pakhoi, the only person qualified to act as U.S. Consular Agent, is the present British Consul, Octavius Johnson, who continues as U.S. Consular Agent.

There is, however, no business for the U.S. Consular Agent at either Kuingchow (or Hoikow), or Pakhoi; unless some American citizen might be ship-wrecked in the vicinity of one or the other of these ports.

I strongly suspect that the Consul at Canton who persuaded the State Department to establish Consular Agencies at Kuingchow (or Hoikow) and Pakhoi, imagined he might derive pecuniary benefits therefrom, through fees on Consular business; but I would urgently recommend their discontinuance; as there is no business whatever; and as there are no American residents at either of these ports; and therefore the Agencies are of no practical account or utility, and utterly fictitious in character.

The Chinese Interpreter, at the U.S. Consulate in Canton, since April 1<sup>st</sup> 1884, is Chien Loy Yoo; who was one of the Chinese students in America for ten years; and returned to China in 1882.

The former Interpreter was a very competent and accomplished gentleman, but had so many affairs to attend to outside of this Consulate, that his attendance and performance of duties at the Consulate became so irregular and unreliable as to amount, practically, to abandonment of the position of Interpreter.

Without being able to procure proof necessary for his conviction, I had reason to believe, from facts brought to my knowledge, that he was engaged in illicit business; by taking <sup>undue</sup> advantage of his official connection with the Consulate, was deriving considerable income from sources; which, in time, would involve all concerned in the Consulate in difficulty, that could only be averted by entire severance of his relations with the Consulate.

One applicant for the vacancy was a Chinaman of considerable fortune, who was eleven years Interpreter in the U.S. Consulate at Hong Kong; and you can form some idea of the importance attached by a Chinaman to an office of this nature, which invests him with opportunities to obtain illegitimate profits, when I state that he addressed me a letter in which an offer of seven hundred dollars was made for his appointment as Interpreter of this Consulate.

Many of the young Chinamen who arrive to the United States as students are capable and talented young men, who have been sadly neglected by the Chinese Government since their return to China; which fact, in connection with their strong attachments to the United States Government and people, should suggest the feasibility and desirability of looking to that source for supply of Interpreters in the U.S. Consulates in China.

Lee U Lin (Lee U Lin) is the Chinese Writer at the U.S. Consulate, in Canton; and as he is a highly educated man, a superior writer, and a trusty, faithful, and useful Chinaman, of unblemished character, I desire his continuance.

Charles Lindberg is the Constable at the U.S. Consulate; and is the Chief of Police on Shamoen. He is a vigilant and useful officer; and has often averted and prevented serious mischief, by his prompt and timely attention to disorderly, drunken and turbulent persons, who might have jeopardized American interests.

Please notice, by comparing wrong names in Register with the right names herein supplied, that several corrections of the Register are necessary.

Yours, Sir,

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant

Charles Skysmond  
McLoud

*con*



*Mr. Seymour*

*No. 57*

*D. H. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 9<sup>th</sup> 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Reply to Labor Circular  
of February 15<sup>th</sup> 1884.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 50

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 9 - 1884

H. A. A. A. A. A.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor, in compliance with the "Labor Circular" of February 15<sup>th</sup> 1884, received 7<sup>th</sup> instant, from the State Department, to make the following statement, showing the value of labor in Canton, and vicinity; or Southern China.

The rates of wages paid to laborers of various classes are as follow; and the compensation stated generally requires their services "from day-light to dark"; with half-pay allowance for holidays; and understanding that every laborer provides his own sustenance - an hour of time being allowed for mid-day meal; and a few minutes, for noon and afternoon, for tea & refreshment.

Class - \$4.50 to \$5.50 per Month.  
 Bakers, book-binders, brick-makers, wine-makers, butchers, confectioners, cigar-makers, distillers of essences, boatmen, dyers, gardeners, hat and cap makers, shoe-makers, nail-makers, potters, printers, leather-ware makers, saddle and harness makers, tailors, tin-smiths, posters, City-laborers, receive from \$4.50 (U.S. Currency) to \$5.50 (U.S. Currency) per month.

Class - \$4.50 to \$8.00 per Month.  
 Bricklayers, masons, plasterers, roofers, plumbers, Carpenters, blacksmiths, iron founders, Cabinet-makers, Coopers, cutlers, engravers, jewelers, lithographers, sail-makers, weavers (outside of mills, of which there are few outside of the name of Mills), glass-makers, shipyard laborers, range from \$4.50 (U.S. Cy) to \$8.00 (U.S. Cy) per month, according to skill.

## Other classes.

3

Employers in shops and stores in City, get from \$3.50 (U.S. C.) to \$4.50 (U.S. C.) per month.

Sailors on Chinese junks and native boats get from \$3.50 to \$5.50 per month; and on River and coast Steamers, from \$6.00 (U.S. C.) to \$14.00 (U.S. C.) per month, according to experience and responsibility. Stevedores range from \$9.00 to \$13.50 per month.

Soldiers get \$4.50 (U.S. C.) per month.

Teachers, with from 25 to 40 pupils, receive from \$3.00 to \$4.50 (from two to three Taels) per year for each pupil; with "Holidays' presents" according to circumstances.

Telegraph Operators (Chinese & Students in U.S.) get from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per month.

In mines and for mining, miners men receive twenty cents per day; and women and boys, for pumping & carrying, fifteen cents per day.

Household wages, to in-door servants, and for country land-laborers, ~~these~~ <sup>in the service of native employers,</sup> are usually about one Tael, or \$1.50 (U.S. C.) per month, with food, and feast-day gifts; which last item is fairly and liberally equitably respected; and so applied <sup>well</sup> to be an incentive to industry.

Foreigners usually get good cooks and house servants at from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per month - the servants generally arrange with the Cook for "chow" or food at \$2. to \$2.50 per month.



4

The staple article of food is rice; & the ordinary cost of nourishment for laborers and the industrial class of Chinese, is from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per month; according to fluctuations in the value of rice; and the extent of lubricating the inner man with native groundnut oil (in lieu of butter) and morsels of pork, fish, &c. In fact, the cost of living has been reduced to the minimum standard; and all seem to be healthy and contented; and as for industry, every ounce of muscle in men, women, and children above three years of age, is utilized, until indolence is scarcely visible.

The currency of the common people is a small Copper Coin called "Cash", equivalent to about one mill, or one tenth of a cent; and that of the business classes is silver, for weighing which nearly every one is supplied with Coin <sup>made substitutes for</sup> scales, or small "steel-yards".

There is very little chance for any one to get out of the groove of life in which his lot was cast.

Although the severities of "Caste", as known in some countries of Asia, are not in force in China; the boundaries and spheres of the various classes are clearly defined, and practically recognized & reinforced.

5

If every free-trader in America  
 were compelled to subsist on the  
 diet, and conform to the economics  
 of Asia, which holds half of  
 the population of the Globe;  
 and realized the miserable  
 scale or standard of human  
 existence prevalent in those  
 cheap-labor countries; between  
 which and the well-requited  
 industry of the United States,  
 the adoption of inter-national  
 agrarianism, called "Free-Trade",  
 would establish an average; there  
 would be less clamor in favor of  
 a pernicious policy, which contemplates  
 competition between two systems  
 of labor, with the certainty of  
 leveling down American labor,  
 to the point at which it is proposed  
 to elevate the value of Asiatic labor;  
 which is satisfied with from twenty  
 to fifty cents per day; & garbage for food.

I am Sir, Your Obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
 W. H. Brown



*Enter Marriage  
Noted*

*No. 51*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*July 11 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adce,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Ending Account,  
with Vouchers,  
and Returns.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 51

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

July 11 - 1884

*H. A. Adee*

Third Asst. Secy of State.

Washington D.C.

*[Signature]*

I have the honor to hand  
you herewith Account, with  
Vouchers, and Returns, to  
June 30. 1884, inclusive.

No business reported from  
any Consular Agency in this District  
for the past Quarter.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour,  
M. Council,  
S. Canton.

Stat  
file  
file

{ Enclosures.  
Account Wm. Carter tied.  
Returns tied.

*Pent.* *Lean*  
*M*  
Found in Indian Burial  
Oct. 17, 1890.

(FORM No. 87.)

## CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

Consulate of the United States,

*Canton May 1<sup>st</sup> 1884.*I, *Gideon Nye*

Vice Consul of the United States

at *Canton*do hereby certify that, on this *first*day of *May*A. D. 1884, at *First Presbyterian Church*in the city of *Canton*,aged *thirty one*years, born in *Honolulu, H. I.* and nowresiding in *Canton*and *Mary Rebecca Happer*aged *twenty five*years, born in *Huntingdon Co. Penn<sup>a</sup>*and now residing in *Canton, China*

were united in marriage before

me, and in my presence, by *Rev<sup>d</sup> A. P. Happer, D.D.**Rev<sup>d</sup> S. C. Damon, D.D.* who is authorizedby the laws of *the United States*

to perform such a ceremony.

In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of

the Consulate, at *Canton*this *first*day of *May*

A. D. 1884, and of the Independence of the United

States the *one hundred and eighth**Gideon Nye*  
*H. J. Vice*

Consul.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
17 1884  
RECEIVED.

The account is  
No. 52 approved <sup>97 1/2 cents</sup>  
W. F. Bunker  
2. Apr 1885

United States Consulate, Canton, China.  
September 27. 1884

FROM  
Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO  
Hon. A. A. Alden,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Explanation satisfactory  
and Auditor reported  
to his committee  
Came Feb 13 1885

So Amos  
Feb 14 85

Subject.

Acknowledgment of, and compliance  
with, Dispatch No. 51, from the Department  
of State, dated August 11<sup>th</sup> 1884.

SYNOPSIS.

Items of expenses incurred in Chinese  
passengers certificates investigations,  
at Canton and Hong Kong, by orders of  
Department of State and U. S. Legation.

No. 52

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

September 27-1884

Mr. Robert A. Hall

Third Assistant Secretary

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Dispatch No. 51, from the Department of State, under date of August 11-1884, and to comply with its requisition for full particulars as to item of Fifty One Dollar (\$51.00) in amount rendered for quarters ending March 31st 1884, for expenses incurred in the investigation, at Canton and Hong Kong, of Chinese passenger Certificates, by order of the Department of State, and United States Legation.

2

Agreeably with instructions conveyed to me in Dispatch, No. 40, from the Department of State, under date of November 21<sup>st</sup> 1883, I investigated, as thoroughly as possible, the facts in the matter referred to, in Canton; and sent the Interpreter of this Consulate to Hong Kong to glean information from the outgoing passengers of the Steamers then leaving for San Francisco, and from other sources; the results of which investigation were fully set forth in my Dispatches, No. 44, dated January 31<sup>st</sup> 1884, and No. 45, dated February 20<sup>th</sup> 1884, to the Department of State; and in my Dispatches, No. 55, dated January 29<sup>th</sup> 1884, and No. 60, dated February 27<sup>th</sup> 1884, to the U. S. Minister, at Peking. The expenses thus incurred amounted to \$10.00.



C

Of these ten dollars, four dollars were expended in sending the Chinese Interpreter in chains to find and interrogate the native official who had been entrusted with these Certificates, and in an inspection of the records and documents of his office, to verify statements.

Six of these ten dollars were expended in sending the Chinese Interpreter to Hong Kong, as stated on last page; and the expenses of his excursion were one dollar for deck passage each way on steamer, and one dollar per day for board and lodging during four days of absence. The above foregoing explanations will account for ten dollars incurred in the first investigation of the Chinese passenger Certificates.

The facts reported to the Department and Legation embarrassed the Minister, in regard to locating the responsibility of the alleged irregularities as to Certificates; and he wrote me very plainly his desire for more definite information, in his dispatch #70, under date of Peking, March 7<sup>th</sup> 1884.

4

In that dispatch he said -

"I must ask you to give the subject special and immediate attention. I think it would be well for you to visit Hong Kong in person, and obtain the information obtainable. It is clear from the Department's instructions that fraudulent certificates have been issued."

The point is to discover the authors of this fraud. If it is the work of Chinese officials unknown to you, either for gain, or in defiance of our treaty rights, the remedy is in our hands. If it is done at Hong Kong or elsewhere, then we have no control over it."

This it is imperative to establish at once, and beyond peradventure."

I do not see how you can do so without a careful study of the question in person at Hong Kong. I attach as much importance to the question, and especially to the points of the responsibility devolving upon the Legation, that I shall, under the circumstances, visit Canton, and confer with you."

That called for a thoroughness of investigation which could not be performed by force, or without some expense; and he was very much inclined to believe a similar amount of work could not be obtained at so small a cost.

I took with me three Chinamen, representing the three chief or principal classes in China. One is a scholar. Another is a merchant, with some faculty for business - his father being a tobacco merchant. The third is a "Coolie" or laborer. All were in my employment, and somewhat reliable. No charges made for time.

The passenger business of the steamships, so far as notices are concerned, is done by or through Chinese Consular Agents, or passenger agents who speak in Chinese and "Siu" - English.

Under my direction, those three Chinamen sought any possible means by which they might obtain passage for themselves and friends - offering premiums or bounties, if necessary, and officious, for successful negotiations. They were thus employed, going & returning, four days.

Their efforts corroborated the information I derived in interviews with officers of the outgoing steamer, and the Agency.

The results of this thorough investigation were sent to Minister Jerning.

The expenses incurred in this investigation in March 1884 amounted to \$41.00.

viz: For my U.S. passage to Hong Kong \$3.00

" " " " " from " " \$3.00

" passage & subsistence <sup>U.S.</sup> \$20.00 each way

" my hotel board U.S. \$1.00 each day

" board \$1.00 each day, 3 days a \$3.00

" boat-hire, travel, postage, & sundries \$41.00

The strictest economy was observed, while faithfully executing the Minister's commands.

Adding these explanations will be satisfactory.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
Minister

Statement  
appended

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

March 31<sup>st</sup> 1884

Statement of Expenses incurred by  
Charles Seymour, M. Consul at Canton,  
during the Quarter ending March 31<sup>st</sup>  
1884, in executing the instructions of the  
Department of State and U.S. Minister  
in regard to Chinese passengers  
Artificials.

1884

1<sup>st</sup> Jan. Expenses in sending Interpreter after  
Chinese Certificate Commissioner  
and inspecting records of his Office } \$ 4.00  
Expenses in sending Interpreter to  
Hon. Hong Kong and board expenses }  
4 days down to, in, from Hong Kong } \$ 6.00  
1<sup>st</sup> March Expenses of self to open Hong Kong } \$ 6.00  
" " " 4 days Hotel \$4.00, meals } \$ 16.00  
" " " \$4.00, passage 3 Chinamen } \$ 6.00  
to open Hong Kong }  
Expenses board 3 men for 3 days } \$ 9.00  
" boat hire, transport, postage &c. } \$ 4.00  
\$ 51.00

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul



No. 57 approved Jan 16/85

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15 1884

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Acknowledgment of and reply to  
No. 48 about first name  
of Baron Von Seckendorff, U.S. Consular  
Agent at Luraw. SYNOPSIS.

"  
" *Ades* is the first name.

No. 579

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15<sup>th</sup> 1894

~~Mr. A. W. Pike~~

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to  
acknowledge with deep satisfaction  
your letter to the Department of State,  
informing you that "Edwin"  
is the first name of the person  
now at Canton, the American  
Agent at Canton, China.

His ordinary signature  
and title, however, is "Baron  
von Richthofen".

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully

Yours,  
Chas. Leonard  
Consul



*Sto*  
*No. 55*

*By Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*October 15<sup>th</sup> 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Trade Guilds.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Copied March 1886,*



No. 55

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

October 15<sup>th</sup> 1884.

H. V. K. H. K. H. K.

Third Asst. Sec. of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

The "Trade Guild Circular" issued by the Department of State, under date of May 18<sup>th</sup> 1884, having had careful attention, I have the honor to report that "Trade Guilds" are the strongest organizations in China, and in all Chinese Communities, at home or abroad.

The recent riots in Hong Kong, where the "Trade Guilds" aroused by what were deemed unjust penalties imposed by a British Police Magistrate

upon Chinese laborers who refused to assist in repairing French war-vessels in the dock-yards, would not permit the Chinese coolies to carry a sedan-chair, or pull a jinrikshaw, or row a boat, or assist in conveying cargoes to or from ships, or labor in the dock-yards, or perform any labor for foreigners, demonstrated the relentless severity with which those "Guilds" enforce their mandates.

Throughout China; "Trade Guilds" have long been and continue formidable organizations - extending to all branches of industry & commerce. As to apprentices, at tailor's and other trades they usually serve a term of three years. No schools exist here to promote a knowledge of any trade. I am, Sir,  
 Your obedient servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 U.S. Consul.



*No. 50*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*November 19 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Cotton Manufactures.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Enclosing two samples  
British Cotton Drill,  
sold in China as "American  
Cotton".*

No. 50

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 19<sup>th</sup> 1884

W. A. R. & Co.

Third Street, West of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand,  
you, with this, two samples of  
"Black Cotton Drill", sold in China  
as "Pure American Cotton", and as  
"Best American Drill".

My impression that this sort  
of business has been going on  
for years led me to investigate  
the matter carefully; and now  
you have tangible proof of the fact.

These goods are sold to Chinese dealers  
in Hong Kong & Canton for about \$4.00 Mexican,  
or \$3.50 U.S. gold, per piece of 100 yards.

The firm, ~~mentioned~~ <sup>found</sup> in one of the ~~samples~~ <sup>samples</sup> ~~will be found~~ in the ~~Business Directory of~~ <sup>Business Directory of</sup> ~~Manchester, England~~; not as manu-  
 facturers, but as "Shipping Merchants",  
 although, ~~obviously~~ <sup>although</sup> ~~not English~~.  
 The adoption or appropriation of  
 the "Dragon of China" as a trade-mark  
 on British goods that are described  
 as "Pure" and "Best American",  
 will, doubtless, suggest the idea  
 "tricks" are not monopolized by the  
 "Germans".

Possibly these samples may  
 be deemed worthy of a place among  
 the exhibits of cotton goods at the  
 Exhibition in New Orleans; to which  
 China has sent many specimens  
 of industrial skill.

I am, Sir, Most Obedient Servant

Two Enclosures  
 viz  
 Samples Cotton Drill } Charles Seymour  
 W. L. Consul



*Ans'd  
Jue 20/85*

*W. C. Blair*



*No. 57*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*November 24 - 1884.*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*American Ship Fees*

SYNOPSIS.

*The "Act", Circulars, and  
Letter, concerning Fees; and  
"American Vessels".*

No. 57

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 24-1884.

H. A. Addee -

Third Asst. Sec. of State -

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of copies of the Act (approved June 26-1884) to remove certain burdens on the American Merchant Marine; with the Department Circular of June 30-1884; and the "Interpretation Circular" of July 30-1884.

Consular Officers were not agreed as to the full force and meaning of that Act; and their doubts were not cleared by the "Interpretation Circular".

The letter from Secretary Welles, addressed, under date of 20-September 1884, to the U.S. Consul at Hong Kong, and published

Recently in the papers of that City, is the first clear and authoritative statement that I have seen as to said Act; especially in regard to the question of treating "all vessels carrying the American Flag as American vessels, in regard to collection of fees"; although the same opinion was given by the U. S. Consul General.

In rendering my accounts for the 1/4 year ending September 30<sup>th</sup> 1884, I informed the Fifth Auditor that while in doubt on that point, I had received (subject to proper ruling and decision), as special deposit, fees, to the amount of about Fifty Dollars, from British-built vessels carrying the U. S. Flag; which money I shall now refund, in accordance with the letter of Secretary Frelinghuysen referred to; which should be in the hands of all U. S. Consul Officers.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
McLennan



*See Oregon*

*11503*

*By Clair*



*No. 58*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*November 25<sup>th</sup> 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*New Orleans Exhibition*

SYNOPSIS.

*Circular of July received October  
20<sup>th</sup>, and Circular of August  
6<sup>th</sup> received November 24<sup>th</sup> 1884.  
Exhibition exhibits left Canton October.*

No. 58

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25-1884.

*C. A. S. Price*

Third As. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.



I have the honor to inform you that the Circular of the Department, dated July 1884, "to the Diplomatic and Consular Officers of the United States", in regard to the New Orleans Exhibition, which is to be opened Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 1884, reached Canton Oct 20<sup>th</sup> 1884, and the Circular from Department, dated August 6<sup>th</sup> 1884, arrived here yesterday afternoon; both in excellent time to be useless.

The Chinese exhibits from Canton, and Southern China, which are creditable, under the peculiar circumstances of a warlike nature, must per "City of Tokio," which left Hong Kong October 28<sup>th</sup> 1884, and are now probably at San Francisco, en route to New Orleans.

With my twelve years of experience in the Postal Service of the United States, the present slow, expensive, and circuitous process or system of communication between Washington and Canton, which subjects all mail matter to triple postage and numerous delays, does seem to be the most illy contrived and least efficient plan that could possibly be devised.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
 Your Obedient Servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 Consul.



*St. Clair*

*No. 59*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Number 25-17884.*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Acknowledgment of Department's  
Circular of July 14<sup>th</sup> 1884,  
with Copy of Act making  
Appropriations SYNOPSIS for the  
Consular and Diplomatic  
Service.*

No. 59

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25<sup>th</sup> 1884.

Mr. A. A. Wood.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Circular of the Department of State, dated July 14<sup>th</sup> 1884, with copy of "Act making appropriations for the Consular and Diplomatic Service for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1885; and for other purposes."

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.



*No. 5460*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Number 25th 1884.*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*The U.S. Consulate at Canton*

SYNOPSIS.

*(Department's Circular of Aug 21, 1884.  
Sketch of the Canton Consulate.  
Features of Consular business.  
Commercial operations.*

No. ~~5-9~~ 10

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

November 25<sup>th</sup> 1884.

Wm. A. Adee

Third Asst Sec<sup>y</sup> of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to  
acknowledge receipt of the Circular  
from the Department of State, dated August  
21<sup>st</sup> 1884, calling for report & description  
of the various Circular posts.

Regretting sincerely the impossibility  
of complying with that requirement in  
time to reach the Department before  
the opening of Congress; I gladly  
submit particulars which may  
be deemed interesting in regard to  
one of the oldest of M. Comulates.

✓  
If the records of the Canton Consulate are reliable, it was established A.D. 1785; and is therefore approaching its Centennial. On this point it would be gratifying to have confirmatory information from the archives of the Department.

The first <sup>US</sup> Consul at Canton was Samuel Shaw, of Massachusetts, who served from 1785 to 1794, when he died on his voyage to America. He was succeeded by Captain Randee, as Vice Consul, who served until 1798; when <sup>came</sup> the son of the first Consul, Shaw, of Rhode Island; who was succeeded by Edward Livingston, of Rhode Island; and so the succession is recorded down to the present time, with frequent changes.



The obstructions placed in the Canton River a quarter of a Century ago, to defend this City against hostile fleets; and the opening of several ports on the Coast of China to foreign commerce; and the extension of ship navigation on the River Yangtze to points at which the tea-trade, which was formerly tributary to Canton, now enters; considerably diminished the foreign commerce of this Metropolis of Southern China; but still it is, and must continue to be the market and distributing point for over fifty millions of people; and is the seat and center of a large portion of their commerce.

1/

The industry of Canton and the surrounding country is marvellously diversified; and skilled labor is employed in a multiplicity of channels; as any discerning observer will notice in walks through the crowded streets of this ancient city; the foreign commerce of which dates back to over two centuries before the Christian Era; when Canton was frequented by ships from the Indian Ocean - sailing to and fro with the monsoon, which prevails, from October to April, from the north east to the south west; and in the opposite direction during the remainder of the year.

The cost of living (or existing) is, in this country, reduced to the minimum standard - two dollars per month being an ordinary allowance for food among laboring people.

Idleness is scarcely known or tolerated among the Chinese; and mendicants are only found among the helpless and afflicted.

Silk, raw and manufactured, is one of the largest items of export from Canton. Tea of common quality goes to Europe.

Matting, China-ware (crochery), fire-crackers, fans, spices, wooden-ware, are exported to all countries of the West.

Cotton and Cotton-yarn are the two large items of imports into Canton.

China is so abundantly supplied with the materials for articles needed by her masses, that she is almost independent of foreigners; and there is no doubt that the first and chief wish of the average Chinaman is that foreigners would clear out and stay away.

57

The skill of Chinese artisans in copying and applying what they deem valuable of foreign production is demonstrated in numberless imitations; the most noteworthy specimens of which may be mentioned as the products of imitation skill and talent, in connection with professional instruments, as related to me by an accomplished dentist; who exhibited Chinese imitations of a very finely adjusted and beautifully polished instrument known as a swivel-drill for perforating teeth, preparatory to the filling process; the inventor of which almost indispensable dental-instrument resides in Philadelphia; and is well known throughout the world.

These Canton imitators produce and sell at half-price instruments that cannot be detected as counterfeits without being so informed by the Chinese maker.

The past year has been one of severe trial to all who are engaged in commercial pursuits in Canton, or in China; owing to the unsettled and uncertain condition of business affairs, pending war-like demonstrations, and the prospect of continued disturbances, before a solution of existing complications can be reached, with peaceful results.

Multitudes of mechanics have been thrown out of employment; and while many of those who have been deprived of the enjoyment of the fruits of their labor and skill have found their necessities, more than their patriotism, forced them into the Army; numberless thousands have become desperate and needy, without any demand for their industry.

2

And such elements, mischievous and evil-disposed imps of the Devil have found abundant materials with which to create scenes of turbulence; which have often put those entrusted with authority to their wits' ends, to devise means for maintaining public order and tranquility.

It is not strange, that, under such untoward and perplexing circumstances, mobs should be instigated, by crafty leaders, to make violent demonstrations of hatred toward foreigners; to whose province is ascribed nearly all the ills that have come upon a people who prefer the peaceful avocations of industry to war.

The Consular Corps in this red-hot city of Canton, and Province of Kwang Tung, have been required to exercise the utmost vigilance in guarding the lives and interests of foreigners residing in Southern China.

In the performance of such duty, and in meeting the demands of a trust involving lives, property, and honor, it has been my endeavor to promote the safety and welfare of all who needed protection; and to advance American interests at and about Canton.

The official returns and accounts from this Consulate show that more fees have

collected at Canton during the  
past three years, than during  
the preceding twelve years.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
McBarnes.





No. 61

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*December 13-1884.*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Important Military Movement.*

SYNOPSIS.

*22,000 Chinese soldiers moving  
from Canton and vicinity toward  
the frontier of Kwang Si, to resist the  
anticipated approach of French forces, as alleged.*

No. 61

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 13<sup>th</sup> 1884.

Mr. A. A. Adee.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you  
that an important military movement  
is now occurring in Southern China.

About twenty two thousand Chinese  
soldiers are being conveyed, from  
Canton and vicinity, toward the  
frontiers of Kwangsi; to resist the  
anticipated approach of French  
forces from Tonquin, as is alleged.

To convey this large body of men, and  
their arms, equipage, and supplies, about  
two hundred and fifty cargo-boats are  
employed; and for a few days

past, it has been difficult for foreign merchants to obtain cargo-boats to transport freight between Canton and sea-going vessels at Whampoa; as owners and navigators of such boats feared they would be forced into the military transport-service, and preferred to keep out of that danger.

These Chinese soldiers have been removed from Canton, and from Whampoa, and from the various forts and military stations between Canton and the mouth of the River.

Regarding the event as significant of war between France and China being soon in operation in Southern China, I acquaint you of the above facts.

I am, Sir,

Most obedient servant,

Charles Seymour  
McGowan

*now printed Feb. 9/85*

*By Clair*

No. 62



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*December 15 - 1884*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Asking leave of absence  
during 1885*

SYNOPSIS.

*Leave granted in 1883, & in 1884;  
but not used, owing to condition  
of affairs in Canton.*

No. 62.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

December 15. 1884.

Mr. A. A. Alden.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to ask that the Department of State will be kind enough to renew the favor granted in 1883, and again in 1884, for 1885, in regard to leave of absence for sixty days, if found necessary for sanitary purposes.

During 1883 and 1884 there was no time when the condition of affairs at Canton would have justified the Consul in leaving his post, while in good health.

The Consul and Vice Consul  
of the other Consulates have,  
during both of those years, been  
compelled, by illness, to go away  
for the recovery of health; while  
I have enjoyed excellent health;  
but as the sea air is necessary  
to cut out fever from the system  
when one has the misfortune to  
be afflicted with that ailment, or  
general debility by reason of protracted  
season of warm weather, I will  
feel thankful for the privilege  
of such leave, in the event of  
finding it necessary for health.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

*ac May 8/85*



*No. 63*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*January 7-1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Account, Vouchers, and Returns.*

SYNOPSIS of Enclosures in 2 Envelopes.

*Quarterly Account for Rent and Miscellaneous Expenses.*

*Eight Vouchers in duplicate.*

*Nine returns.*

No. 63

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7-1885.

*W. H. H. Lee*

Third Asst. Sec<sup>y</sup> of State.

Washington D.C.

*Shi:*

I have the honor to hand  
you enclosed Quarterly Account,  
for rent and miscellaneous Expenses;  
with eight vouchers, in duplicate; and nine  
returns, for the Quarter and year ending  
December 31<sup>st</sup> 1884.

Sam, Jr,

Yours obedient servant,

Charles Leonard

US Consul.

Enclosures.

1 Envelope containing Account.

" " 8 vouchers in duplicate.

" " 9 returned.

Stat,  
& file

11/11/11



(Form No. 1231)

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

Names of Persons employed at the  
United States Consulate, at Canton; and  
its Consular Agencies; January 1<sup>st</sup> 1885.

Name	Place	Language	Rank	Date of App.
Charles Seymour	Canton	United States	Consul	Aug. 4, 1882
John Hye	Canton	United States	Vice Consul	May 13, 1882
William Byrnes	Canton	Shanghai	Interpreter	April 1, 1884
Lee A. Lin	Canton	China	Chinese Interpreter	Sept. 1, 1882
Charles Lindberg	Canton	London & Norway	Constable	May 1, 1882
John J. Leckie	Swatow	Swatow	Constable	Nov. 9, 1883
Yang Tze Chi	Swatow	China	Interpreter	Oct. 1, 1884
W. H. Adams	Swatow	Swatow	Interpreter	Oct. 1, 1884
W. J. Moulton	Canton, China			January 1, 1885
			Charles Seymour	
			W. H. Adams	

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Report of Marriage of American Citizens,  
and Certificate issued therefor, during  
the year 1884, at Canton, China.*

---

On the first day of May A.D. 1884  
Mr Francis Williams Damon; (aged 31 years,  
by profession a Missionary, temporarily residing at  
Canton, China; and a former and future resident  
of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, the place of  
his nativity; son of Rev Samuel Damon, clergyman,  
a resident of Honolulu, native of Massachusetts,  
and an American Citizen, a Citizen of the  
United States of America;) was married  
to Miss Mary Rebecca Happer, (aged  
25 years, daughter of Reverend Andrew P.  
Happer, D.D., a resident of Canton, China,  
and native of Pennsylvania, and a Citizen  
of the United States of America.)

The marriage occurred in the American  
Unit Presbyterian Church, according to  
the rites and ceremonies of that Church, and  
the ceremonies were performed by Rev A P Happer D.D.  
in the presence of Eider Nye, U.S. Vice  
Consul, and of Florence Tilton and Harriet  
Stoyes, as witnesses.

---

*W. C. Mansfield, Canton, China  
December 31<sup>st</sup> 1884  
Charles Seymour  
J. H. Board*



*Make the  
change.*

*No. 14816*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*January 7<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, - U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Correction of the Register.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Request that the name of  
Yu C Chung be discontinued as  
Interpreter at the Canton Consulate,  
as he was dismissed several years ago.*

No. 14

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

January 7<sup>th</sup> 1884.

Wm. A. A. A. A.

Third Asst. Secy of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the Register of the Department of State may be corrected, by dropping the name of Yu C. Chung, as the Interpreter at the Canton Consulate; as he was dismissed several years ago, when Consul Lincoln left Canton, in 1881.

Notwithstanding annual returns have been sent to the Department, indicating that Yu C. Chung has ceased

to be interpreted at the  
Consulate, his name stands  
in the Register of October  
1. 1884.

He was dismissed for cause,  
as appears by the records.

He was implicated in  
dishonourable transactions;  
such as taking the Consul's  
seal from the Consulate, into  
the City of Canton; and sealing  
a certain gun-contract, which  
was irregular and unauthorized;  
and in connivance with keepers  
of opium brothels in the vicinity  
of reputable American residents.

The right name is "Chinn Poy Koo."

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant.

Charles Leonard  
Major.



*S. H. Claiborne*



*No. 65*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*February 9 - 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Memorials of American residents  
at Canton and Swatow;  
with "items" concerning Consul and Consulate.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Regarding M. Consul at  
Canton; and this Consulate;  
and condition of public affairs  
in Southern China.*

No. 65—

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 9<sup>th</sup> 1885—

Hon. Sec. of State

Third Dept. No. 4 of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand  
*under.* you appended copies of memorials  
 of American residents at Canton and  
 Amoy, in regard to the M. Consul  
 at Canton, with some "items" about  
 this Consulate, respecting which I  
 have had no part whatever, except  
 an earnest endeavor to do my duty.

They are sent to inform you of the  
 action and opinion of those who ought  
 to know the facts. I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant  
 Charles Seymour  
 M. Consul.

## FROM THE AMERICAN RESIDENTS AT CANTON, CHINA.

To His Excellency, The President of the United States; Washington, D. C.

SIR:

The undersigned, Citizens of the United States, residing in Canton, China, beg leave to present the following petition to Your Excellency.

Though we have no voice in the selection of our Consul, as our fellow-citizens at home have in the selection of many of those who hold office among them, we would respectfully claim a hearing with regard to our preference as to the gentleman who occupies the important office of Consul among us.

A Consul in China is something more than a mere Commercial Agent; as he is the only medium of intercourse between us and the native officials.

In such intercourse, firmness and promptitude are needed; as well as tact and suavity.

Hon Charles Seymour, the present occupant of the office in Canton, has been with us during the trying times which we have gone through, during the past two years of strained relations between the Chinese and all foreigners.

We are happy to bear testimony to the ability, promptness, and courtesy, with which he has conducted affairs; as well as to his personal qualities as a gentleman.

We would, therefore, earnestly request that Mr. Seymour be retained in his present position of United States Consul.

This is the unanimous desire of all the Citizens of the United States residing here, without reference to our political affiliations; as we comprise those whose preferences are with each of the parties in the United States.

For all which your petitioners most respectfully and humbly pray.

*Signed by* Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Established in 1824.

Rev. A. P. HAPPER, D. D.—American Presbyterian Mission, since 1844; from Pennsylvania.

Rev. R. H. GRAVES, D. D.—American (South) Baptist Mission since 1854; from Maryland.

Frederic D. Bush, from New York; Nelson E. Bryant, from Massachusetts; Wallace Stebbins, from Connecticut; James W. Andrews, from Massachusetts; Joseph C. Thomson, from New York; C. A. Colman, from California; Henry V. Noyes, from Ohio; W. J. White, from New York; E. Z. Simmons, from Mississippi; A. A. Fulton, from Ohio; F. C. Hickson, from South Carolina; and all unofficial American Citizens residing in Canton, China.

CANTON, CHINA, January, 1885.

Similar request was addressed to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C. These petitions, entirely unsolicited, were presented to the Consul by Rev. Dr. Graves, to be forwarded to Washington; and elicited the following.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Dear Dr. GRAVES.

Your kind note of this date, with the memorials of the American residents in Canton, to the President of the United States, and to the Secretary of State, asking that I may be retained here as Consul, came to hand this morning; and for these tokens of friendly regard, please accept for yourself, and convey to others concerned, my thankful acknowledgment. Whether this request of the American residents in Canton shall, or shall not, be granted; I shall ever cherish remembrance of their kindness; and be comforted by a consciousness of having served them and our Government faithfully during trying and eventful times.

Very Respectfully Yours,

CHARLES SEYMOUR.

United States Consulate, Canton, January, 31st 1885.

## FROM THE AMERICAN RESIDENTS AT SWATOW, CHINA.

To His Excellency, The President of the United States; Washington, D. C.

SIR:

We, the undersigned Missionaries, of the American Baptist Mission, at Swatow, China, and comprising the only Americans, resident at this Port, beg permission to petition earnestly for the retention of Hon: Charles Seymour, as Consul for Canton and Swatow. We are emboldened to do this for the following reasons.

I.—We understand that it would not be at variance with the policy of the Administration to retain, in certain cases, men who have proved themselves to be exceptionally capable, efficient, and satisfactory public officers.

II.—Mr. Seymour has proved himself to be a most competent man. He has been keenly alive to the welfare of his countrymen; and now, in the midst of a most trying crisis, is discharging the duties of his office, in a way not only to command their admiration; but to win also, in an unusual degree, the respect of the Chinese.

III.—It would be disastrous to the interests of the great Missionary Societies to lose, at such a time, the experience, the skill, and the influence, which he has acquired; and the benefits of which we, as their agents, are now reaping day by day. For which your petitioners respectfully and humbly pray.

*(Signed)*

W. ASHMORE, D. D. from Ohio; S. B. Partridge, from New York; Wm. Ashmore Jr. from New York, M. A. Buzzell, from Nebraska; and all American residents at Swatow.

Swatow, China, January, 1885.



## ITEMS.

The United States Consulate at Canton is one of the oldest of American Consulates; having been established, and continued since, 1783.

The business of the U. S. Consulate at Canton, as expressed in fees received and reported to the United States Government, during the three years of Consul Seymour's connection with the Consulate, exceeds that of any previous ten years within the past quarter of a Century.

The Chinese authorities at Canton include the ablest men in China; because of the prevalent spirit of turbulence in Southern China; and the proximity of British, French, and Portuguese possessions; and the magnitude of commercial and monetary interests centering at Canton; which is, incomparably, the wealthiest City of the Empire; and an important source of national revenue.

Three of China's notable men have been Viceroy's of the Two Quangs (Quang-Tung and Quang Si) during Mr. Seymour's Consulship at Canton viz:—

H. E. Viceroy Tseng, the accomplished statesman and diplomatist who was entrusted by the Imperial Government of China in negotiations with the French Ambassador; and uncle of Marquis "Tseng," the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, France and Germany. H. E. the lamented Viceroy "Chang Shu Shing;" who, as the invincible leader of the Taiping Rebellion, defeated the army of "Li Hung Chang," (whose sister was captured and became the wife of the victor;) and as Viceroy, was known as one of the most popular, efficient, and liberal-minded of Chinese officials. He died in 1884. H. E. the present Viceroy "Chang Chih-tung," formerly Governor of "Shan-si;" Literary Chancellor; Minister of Instruction; &c., &c.; ranks foremost for scholarship. The Imperial Commissioner "H. E. Pang U' Lin," superintending military operations in Southern China, with Head Quarters at Canton, is the most anti-foreign of Chinese officials.

The Viceroy and Chinese authorities in Canton, through the Imperial Government of China and the American Legation, requested Consul Seymour to assist in the adjustment and settlement of the claims of all foreigners who suffered losses by the riots of 1833; and expressed a willingness to leave the entire matter in his hands; and paid the American claims many months in advance of the claims of other nationalities.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, in the Annual Report of 1854, of missionary operations at Canton and vicinity in 1853, says—"At one time the chapels were threatened by the mob, and would perhaps have been demolished but for the timely intervention of the American Consul, Hon. Charles Seymour."

The Mission Report adds—"The Mission takes this opportunity of expressing its high appreciation of the efficiency of this worthy officer of our Government in thus exerting himself without being importuned for the protecting of Mission property."

In regard to the riotous proceedings in Canton, and throughout Southern China, against all foreigners, and the persecutions against native Christians, in September 1854, the Secretary of the Board in New York wrote to the Canton Mission as follows: "I wish, first all, to ask that you will express to our Consul in Canton my hearty thanks on behalf of the Board, for his prompt action in the case of the (imprisoned and persecuted) Bannermen; and his general influence in favor of protection to our Missionaries and their converts."

The Medical Missions' Hospital at Canton, established in 1835, having ministered to the necessities of about one million of patients, enters upon its Semi-Centennial year with unprecedented resources and encouragement, notwithstanding the troublesome war complications; and at the annual meeting of its friends, January 30th 1885, the services of Consul Seymour, in obtaining contributions to the amount of about one thousand dollars from the high Chinese officials in aid of the Hospital, were appropriately acknowledged; and it is hoped this Institution may be undisturbed, even amid the contingencies of war, through this co-operation of its native and foreign friends.

Rev. Dr. Damon, of Honolulu, writing to the New York *Observer*, of June 19th 1884, about his visit to China, and referring to a social gathering at the United States Consulate in Canton, said—"The entire company numbered nearly fifty; and I have rarely met a more noble assembly of Missionaries in any part of the world.—I should be doing injustice to Mr. Seymour, our Consul, did I neglect to refer to his generous hospitality and cordial sympathy with his countrymen, and all others engaged in the Missionary work. During my sojourn in China, and most of the time in Canton, I have enjoyed a rare opportunity for cultivating the acquaintance of Missionaries—American, English and German."

Rev. W. J. White, of the American Presbyterian Missions in Southern China, in writing to the New York *Evangelist* of November 20th 1884, about the memorable events of 1884, says—"For the last year or more, it seems as if we had been living near a smouldering volcano, which might break forth upon occasion at almost any time." \* \* \* \* "A climax seemed to have been reached here about 1st September." \* \* \* \* "The news of French attacks spread over the country like wildfire." \* \* \* \* "A foreigner's life would not have been worth much on the streets of Canton on Sunday, August 31st. All the Chapels and foreign houses were threatened. The people raged like mad bulls." \* \* \* \* "Tales of misery come to hand daily." \* \* \* \* "Those who have been long here, say they have never known such a time as the present, when native Christians were made to suffer so much." \* \* \* \* "Too much can scarcely be said in praise of the American Consul here, Mr. Seymour, who has proved himself the right man in the right place in the trying times. A prompt and efficient man in a Consul's place at such a time is certainly providential."

Rev. Thomas W. Pearce, of the London Mission in Canton, referring to Consul Seymour's action; which elicited from the high Chinese authorities a special Proclamation, enforced by military power, for the protection and security of foreign missionaries of all denominations and nationalities, and native converts to Christianity, as well as foreign merchants, and other foreign residents, and their property, against injury and violence by Chinese mobs, at a critical time in 1884, when the populace were intensely excited over French hostilities at Foo-Chow and Formosa; expressed his "appreciation of the services rendered by the American Consul;" and said "they were entitled to publicity and acknowledgment."

An English Wesleyan Missionary, Rev. G. Hargreaves, in a letter to the *China Mail* of March 6th 1884, about numerous outrages in Southern China; said—"The American Consul deserves all praise for the manner in which he has sustained the privileges and rights of his countrymen. Notwithstanding the boasted prestige of England, an Englishman cannot get his affairs attended to with the same dispatch or completeness."

The Hong Kong Evening Telegraph, of November 9th 1883, in an editorial upon the reported death of the American Consul in the Canton riots, said—"Mr. Seymour not only escaped scathless, but has since largely contributed, by the liberal and judicious measures he has advocated, to arrange the serious difficulties so suddenly and unexpectedly created between the Cantonese and the foreign residents of the City. The United States Consular service could ill afford to lose an officer so thoroughly capable of representing his country's best interests with the Chinese authorities as Mr. Seymour has, under somewhat trying circumstances, lately proved himself to be."

Mr. Cameron, of the London *Standard*; and Colonel Guildler, of the New York Herald; telegraphed from China to those papers full reports of the disturbances in Southern China; and approvingly mentioned "the judicious, firm, and conciliatory course of Consul Seymour during trying emergencies at Canton."

Mr. Shumway, of the Cleveland *Herald*, in his "Letters Round the World," after interviewing many of the foreign residents of Canton, where he sojourned nearly a month, wrote—"The good work of allaying the hostilities of the natives against foreigners has been very largely promoted by our United States Consul, Mr. Charles Seymour, who has carried a very steady hand during all the troublous times. He has accomplished twice as much for the benefit of his countrymen here, and the foreigners in general, than have all other Consuls put together." \* \* \* \* "I have no doubt whatever that the extravagant and violent measures of others would have precipitated riots more than once, but for the far-sighted precaution of Mr. Seymour."

The New York *Evening Post's* travelling correspondent, writing from Canton January 24th 1884, said—"Among the numerous discouraging signs is the treatment which missionaries receive, not alone in the provinces hereabouts, where the present war complications have unsettled everything; but even away to the North; and in fact, throughout the whole Empire. Every day the treaties with England, America, and other countries, are being violated. In Canton and the adjoining Provinces violence is done to the Mission chapels, missionaries, and native converts. I cannot forbear referring to the work which is being done by our Consul at this port, the Hon. Charles Seymour. \* \* \* \* He esteems nothing too small for his attention, if it is an infraction of treaty relations; and puts forth every effort in behalf of mobbed missionaries just as earnestly as he would in the case of the most influential American citizen. Indeed, he has acquired much reputation for his courteous attention to the wants of all, including the missionaries of the different European countries." \* \* \* \* "Altogether he has adopted a course that has at once made him the most popular foreign representative with the Chinese officials here; and at the same time so favorably impressed all candid foreigners, that in cases of real emergency they often come to him for advice and aid." \* \* \* \* "The salutary influence of such a determined course cannot be estimated."



*Give him the same  
the facts.  
No. 66 86*



*Ans'd  
Apr 27/85*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Information respectfully requested  
about non-payment of drafts  
for American Interpreter, and other Expenses.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 66

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1885

Mr. A. A. Alden

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that as yet no word of ~~admonition~~ or explanation has been received from any United States official in Washington, in regard to the non-payment of my draft upon the Secretary of State, for "rent and maintenance expenses," for the second quarter of 1884.

This is so much at variance with customary methods of business, that I do not know how to characterize it.

It is certainly a humiliating position in which to place a Consul, who is faithfully endeavoring to inspire the community and people around him with respect for his Nation and Government; to require him to defray the current expenses of his Consulate; and pay rent, postage, printing, Chinese Writers, &c. according to the requirements; and send vouchers to the Department therefor; and then allow his Drafts to be dishonored; and not send him one word of explanation; or release from further compliance with regulations, for which no provision is made, as to payment of his Drafts made in due form.

By the last mail I received  
 a letter from Hon. Wm. Lawrence,  
 dated December 30<sup>th</sup> 1884 at the  
 Office of the First Comptroller  
 of the U.S. Treasury in Washington,  
 informing me that my "draft"  
 "on the Secretary of the Treasury"  
 "for One hundred and twenty five"  
 "Dollars, dated October 13<sup>th</sup> 1884,"  
 "An account of Salary of Interpreter"  
 "at the Canton Agency for the"  
 "third quarter of 1884, was missing"  
 "returned unpaid to its holder"  
 "November 24<sup>th</sup> 1884, as no appropriation"  
 "for the pay of an Interpreter at"  
 "said Agency has been made for"  
 "the current fiscal year" -  
 said draft having been returned  
 to me unpaid, and being in my possession.

In the absence of any information from the Department as to whether any other Drafts are unpaid or likely to be returned to me, either for lack of appropriations, or because the appropriations are exhausted, I am in doubt as to whether any provision has been made, or is likely to be made, for paying the necessary expenses of this Consulate and its Agencies.

For the past year or two, we have had critical times in Northern China; and I have faithfully endeavored to discharge my duties at one of the most difficult posts to which any foreign official could be assigned; and all concerned acknowledge my services.

The Consular District is the most  
 turbulent portion of China; and bordering  
 on the French possessions, where  
 military strife has been going on for  
 nearly a quite two years (in Fongquin),  
 the mobs, riots, outbreaks, and outrages,  
 against foreigners, and Americans  
 engaged in missionary enterprises  
 and labors, and against their native  
 helpers and assistants, have been  
 more frequent and severe than  
 in other portions of China.  
 And during the past year the  
 American Commercial interests  
 have greatly increased on the Chinese  
 Coast, demanding assiduous attention  
 on the part of consular officers.  
 Swatow and vicinity, being in this  
 Consular District, have received vigilant attention.

2

The British and German Vice-Consulates are ~~openly~~ maintained at Swatow; not because of revenue to be derived therefrom; but from the necessity of observing watchfulness at that point, where the native officials and populace are unfriendly to all foreign interests.

Through the exertions and influence of the Hon. Wm Russell Young, who went to Swatow last May, <sup>about</sup> a complicated and prolonged contest between an American citizen, Rev. Dr. Wm. Ashmore, of the American Baptist Mission, and the Chinese officials who encouraged trespasses upon his property and rights, an arbitration was agreed upon for the adjustment and settlement of difficulties.



8

During proceedings growing out  
 of ~~that~~ contest, which resulted  
 in an award of four thousand  
 six hundred dollars to D. Ashmore,  
 and his surrender of the property  
 to the Chinese authorities, the  
 appropriation in Congress failed,  
 and at a time when the United  
 States Consul Agent, Baron  
 von Seckendorff, the able and  
 faithful German Vice Consul,  
 was compelled to communicate  
 often with the Chinese authorities  
 for the protection of American interests,  
 & while intense excitement among  
 the Chinese prevailed, through  
 the Summer and Autumn of  
 1884, and Winter of 1885, I have  
 paid the salary of the Consul Agent;  
 and hope to be reimbursed.

37

During all of this time not one word of explanation or instruction came from the ~~Department of State~~; or from the Treasury Department; until the ~~circumstances~~ ~~letter~~ which was received February 9<sup>th</sup> 1885; except a copy of an Act of Congress making certain appropriations for the Bureau and Diplomatic Service; which could not have reached Boston Agency until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 1884; but as that was not accompanied by any explanation or instructions as to discontinuance of any official or employee of the Consulate or its agencies; and as nothing was known of the wishes of the Department of the State; and emergencies required the

8  
 Success of Interpreter at Swatow,  
 in protecting American interests, I did  
 not feel authorized to <sup>discontinue</sup> the  
 existing arrangements.

Now, may I respectfully beg  
 that these matters may  
 be considered; and that the  
 Department will enlighten  
 me as to its wishes, and, if  
 possible, let me know whether  
 the abandonment of the Swatow  
 Agency, or depriving it of the  
 means of protecting American  
 interests, is likely to be permanent  
 or not; as no one desires to be  
 responsible for its management  
 at Swatow, unless it is provided  
 with means of upholding American  
 interests and American citizens.

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I need not add that such a course as the one pursued in reference to Hsiao's agency will tend to deprive our Government and Countrymen of the valuable services of a talented and faithful gentleman of experience and influence in Consular duties at that post.

As to the inconveniences to which I have been subjected, I make no complaint; but it is due to the honor of our country, that such humiliations as Consular Officers in China are brought by the non-payment of their drafts, and the absence of information as to the same, is not prolonged or continued.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour  
M. Consul.



No. 67



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Inclosing Quarterly Account,  
for rent and miscellaneous expenses,  
with Vouchers, and Returns.

SYNOPSIS.

- See Inclosures - viz:
1. Quarterly Account.
  2. Vouchers in Envelope.
  3. Digest of Invoice Book.
  4. Summary of Business, Canton.
  5. Summary of Business, Canton.
  6. Statement of Arrival & Departure, American Vessels.

No. 67

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

April 25 - 1885

Wm. A. Alden

Third Asst. Sec. of State  
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you herewith Quarterly Account for rent and miscellaneous expenses, with vouchers, and returns, for 1<sup>st</sup> & 1885. It may be proper to explain that the items for telegrams, as per vouchers 7 & 8, were from Baron von Schudloff, U.S. Consul Agent at Canton to Minister Tsung about important business transacted by Mr. Tsung, and practically under the direction of the Legation; and from the same Baron von Schudloff to me, requiring Cypher code for first mail to interpret a telegram in Cypher from Peking, about France and neutral ships.

During the entire war-troubled  
 between France and China many  
 acts of violence occurred against  
 foreign interests in Southern China;  
 and no very competent and useful  
 Consul Agent at Swatow, Baron  
 von Beckendorff, German Consul,  
 has been very faithful and patient  
 in guarding American residents.

I have paid the Salary of Subscriptions  
 at Swatow Agency since July 1<sup>st</sup> 1884,  
 and unless some provision is made  
 for continuing the Subscriptions at Swatow,  
 it is probable no one can be found to  
 act as Vice Consul Agent at Swatow.

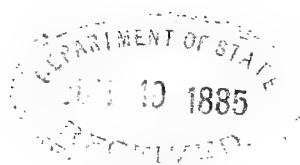
The Postoffice of that District resides  
 thirty miles from Swatow in the interior,  
 and communication with the authorities is difficult.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant  
 Charles Seymour  
 Consul.



*Ans'd  
June 23/85  
No. 68*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



*May 5-1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Ades,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Numbers of dispatches  
received from the Department  
of State at the Canton Consulate.*

SYNOPSIS.



No. 68

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 5 - 1885

Mr. A. A. Addes

Third Assistant Sec. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that in carefully binding, in regular and consecutive order, and comparing numbers of dispatches received from the Department of State, since I entered upon the duties of this Consulate, I find the numbers received compare and agree with the numbers stated as forwarded to this Consulate through or from the U.S. Consulate General at Shanghai.

The dispatches received are numbered consecutively, from No. 1 (one) to No. 29 (twenty nine), the latter bearing date October 23, 1883, acknowledging my dispatch No. 33.

There are none numbered between No. 29 and No. 41, the latter bearing date December 11<sup>th</sup> 1883, acknowledging my No. 37 and No. 38. The numbers run consecutively, from No. 41 to No. 51, the latter bearing date August 11<sup>th</sup> 1884, in regard to item of \$51.00 expenses.

No dispatch numbered 52 was received. Number 53 was dated October 29, 1884, acknowledging my numbers 49 to 51. No. 54 dated January 16, 1885; No. 55, dated February 9, 1885; No. 56, dated February 14, 1885; are all that have been received.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
 Charles Raymond  
 W. Leonard

*Explain the situation,  
late instructions  
to him explain*



*836*

*No. 69*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.



*May 1<sup>st</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Allec,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Unpaid drafts,  
and  
Expenses.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 691

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 5<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. Arthur

Third Dept. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that about a week ago I had to refer to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation the amount of a draft on the Secretary of the Treasury for the salary of Interpreter at the Protocol Agency \$125.00, and it was returned for non-payment.

A draft for the previous month of same amount having been returned, was also unpaid.

Today I received notice that I must refund to that House the amount of my draft on the Secretary of State \$320.18 (and interest) drawn for my account of Trust and Miscellaneous Expenses for Second Quarter of 1884, which was duly audited by Fifth Auditor as per his letter dated January 8-1885, received February 1885.

As no dispatch whatever has been received from the Department of State in regard to these matters, or as to whether the Comptroller General shall or shall not be required to continue a disbursement system, which, by reason of lack of explanation of appropriation, or other causes, are required by the Government, I respectfully ask deference.

5

Respectfully ask whether it  
 is reasonable or right to require  
 Consular Officers to maintain  
 their Consulate efficiently,  
 according to the firmness  
 required for authorized expenses;  
 and have their Drafts dishonored  
 for three, six, or nine months;  
 without one word of information,  
 advice, instruction, or suggestion,  
 or explanation; in the absence  
 of which the Consul is left  
 in a most humiliating, and  
 uncomfortable, and unsafe  
 condition, at remote posts of  
 duty; where he is endeavoring  
 faithfully to maintain the  
 honor of his Country and  
 nationality, against the world,  
 or in rivalry with them of other Nations.

✓  
The receipt of a printed copy of an Act of Congress regarding appropriation does not supply the needed information, or give the formal direction to discontinue expenditures.

I hope that some clear information on these matters may be given by the Department, and that some assurance may be given that these unpaid drafts may be duly paid.

Respectfully referring to the Dispatch No. 11, dated March 28, 1883, from the Department of State, in approving of my proposed reduction of expenses at the Santa Fe Agency, the Department ruled that "Even if such reduction were

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Desirable, the change should not  
 have been attempted without  
 first referring the question  
 to the Department"; and  
 under that ruling I now  
 respectfully ask whether it  
 is the wish of the Department  
 that any of the expenses  
 for which no provision for  
 payment by the Government  
 has been made shall be  
 discontinued.

As those unpaid drafts  
 cover an Interpreter, two Chinese  
 Writers, Rent, postage, printing,  
 &c. &c. an answer in this  
 affirmation, with instructions,  
 would place the Consulate  
 in poor condition for business.



5/

It has been my aim to keep our nationality in honor among these people, and to do my duty faithfully in one of the most difficult parts of duty to which any foreigner could be assigned, while surrounded by turbulent natives, and prejudiced countrymen, whose interests I have tried to guard and promote; and I had little or no time or inclination to watch proceedings in Congress. We have had trying times in Sutter Clinic, and I trust the Department will see that necessary expenses are paid.

I am, Sir, Yours truly,

Charles Seymour  
Minister

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No. 70



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
For sending copy of his  
231 to Legation at Peking  
May 4, 1885  
FILE 13 1885

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1885

36-29 April 1885  
FROM

As Amel  
Presi 1/85

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Ades,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Subject.

American Citizenship.

SYNOPSIS.

Case of "Whey Ting"  
alias  
John Frederick Pearson.

No. 70

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 29<sup>th</sup> 1885

~~to the Hon. Sec. of State.~~

The Hon. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to respectfully  
request, that Consular Officers of the United  
States should have from the Department  
of State, in clear and authoritative  
form, for their guidance in determining  
questions arising as to American  
Citizenship in Asia, (and elsewhere),  
definite instructions for meeting demands  
of children, or sons and daughters,  
of American fathers and Asiatic  
mothers, to be registered at the U.S.  
Consulates, and protected by U.S. Consuls.

During the residence in Asia of foreigners from Europe and America, numerous half-breed children have been born, in and out of wedlock, as living facts will verify.

In the great majority of cases marriages are dispensed with; until, out of regard for the children, their parents, finally, in some instances, become married according to the ceremonies and forms of the Roman Catholic Church; or until separation by death or removal. The marriage ceremony is seldom resorted to by the foreign man and native woman, until after children are born; and it is safe to say that only a small percentage of these half-breed or half-caste children are born in wedlock; and only in few cases do the parents of such children ever become married.

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The British Consulate draw the line of recognition of sons of British fathers and Asiatic mothers, on the double test of legitimate birth, (in wedlock,) and the adoption of European habits and customs, in China; so that a son of a British father and Asiatic mother, after establishing proof of <sup>his</sup> legitimate birth; is not entitled to claim and receive the aid and protection of British Consulate in China, if he persists in wearing the costume and cue of the Chinese, and thereby pretends and purposes to be a Chinaman; and so prevents his identification as a British subject, at sight; and conforms wholly to Chinese customs and regulations.

A case occurred during the present year  
 at this Consulate, respecting which I  
 would be glad to have definite instructions.  
 A man wearing the garb and cue of  
 the Chinese; and apparently, wholly  
 living in conformity with Chinese  
 customs and policy; but speaking  
 and writing the English language  
 with the utmost facility, precision,  
 and accuracy; called at the U.S. Consulate  
 in Canton, and desired my assistance toward  
 getting possession of some property to which  
 he claimed to have a title, the validity  
 of his title not being evident by his papers.  
 As usual with Chinamen, he had  
 several names, and alias this, and alias that;  
 and among them was the name of John  
 Frederick Pearson; derived, as he alleges,  
 from his American father, Frederick Pearson,  
 who was a well-known resident of Shanghai,  
 where he resided many years, and died.

The son alleges, and there is no reason to doubt, although he did not prove, that his father lived with and was married to his Chinese mother.

The proof of their marriage, and the dates of it, his birth were not produced; but subject to the facts, I would respectfully ask to be instructed.

It is very evident that this half-breed, one of whose Chinese names is "Whay Fing" (alias John Frederick Pearson) does not consider himself amenable to American laws, customs, obligations, liabilities, or duties; and desires generally to be wholly identified with Chinese, in interests, customs, and franchises.

He merely desires to employ the machinery of an American Consulate, to obtain advantage which he may not possess as a Chinaman in Chinese tribunals.

He takes refuge, and claims American citizenship under Section 1993 of the Revised Statute of the United States, which declares-

"All children heretofore born or hereafter <sup>born</sup> out of the United States, whose fathers were or may be at the time of their birth citizens thereof, are declared to be citizens of the United States."

Under this section "Whey Sing" (alias Pearson) claims registration as an American citizen; and the aid of this Consulate in getting possession of property, respecting which he may or may not have valid title.



During several years of absence  
 from China, he resided awhile  
 at Bangkok, Siam, at which  
 place David B. Sittler, U.S.  
 Consul, gave him provisional  
 protection; as will appear by  
 reference to that Consul's dispatch  
 No. 135, dated January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1880,  
 to the Department of State;  
 and the dispatch of Third Assistant  
 Secretary of State, Charles Paxon,  
 numbered 66, dated March 24<sup>th</sup>  
 1880, apparently approving of the Consul's action.  
 Does Section 1993 of the Revised  
 Statutes of the United States  
 apply to, and include, as American  
 citizens, the children of American  
 fathers and Chinese mothers,  
 born in and out of wedlock in China;

who practically ignore all obligations  
that rest upon native and adopted  
citizens of the United States; and  
become thoroughly identified with the  
life, habits, customs, requirements,  
privileges, civil and domestic laws  
and regulations of Chinese subjects,  
(and, or, other countries of Asia),  
with entire abandonment or avoidance  
of every characteristic of an  
American citizen?

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
M. General.

on  
Nominations  
made by  
S. D. P.  
A note of this should  
be made for entry into  
the Consular Report - Bureau  
note



No. 71 L. H. Case



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 27 1885

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,

TO

Hon. A. A. Allee,

Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

Amid (G. S. P.)  
July 16/85  
Com. sent  
August 2/85

Subject.

Interpreter.

SYNOPSIS.

Nomination of Chin Poy Koo.

Appended remarks on Interpreter.

No. 71

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

May 27 1885

Mr. John A. Rice,

Third Asst. Sec. of State,

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Dispatch numbered 58 from the Department of State, dated March 21<sup>st</sup> 1885; and to nominate an Interpreter of the Consulate, Chiam Toy Hoo, to fill vacancy caused by absence and removal of former Interpreters.

Chiam Toy Hoo was educated at Norwich (Connecticut) Academy and Yale College; and gives promise of usefulness.

Respectfully requesting attention to above remarks on Interpreter; I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
McConnel

## Remarks on Chinese Interpreters.

The subject of Chinese Interpreters demands some plain and unvarnished statements of facts for the consideration of the Department of State.

The European governments having Consulates in Asia generally maintain at each of their Consulates trained and educated Interpreters of the same nationality as the Consulate to which he belongs, or in which he is employed.

These Interpreters enter the Consular Service of their respective Governments in that capacity with the expectation of some day being raised to the dignity and emoluments of a Consul.

The important fact should be kept  
 in mind that none, or few if any, of these  
 Europeans who act as Chinese Interpreters,  
 attain to such a knowledge of the  
 Chinese language as to be able to  
 command the use of a wide vocabulary;  
 but to the end of service or life, when  
 employed in translations, especially from  
 English or other European languages into  
 Chinese, are compelled to have the constant  
 aid and assistance of a Chinaman of the  
 literary class, described as a "Teacher."  
 This is particularly true of translations  
 into the lofty style of ~~literary~~ Chinese,  
 adopted in official intercourse and correspondence.  
 Even the educated European and American  
 missionaries, after studying the Chinese language  
 in the more simple dialects of the  
 common people, for ten, twenty, thirty,

or forty years, need and use these "Chinese teachers" to help them over obstacles, which would be, otherwise, insurmountable.

This should not be any matter of surprise, when it is stated by a high authority as Professor S. Wells Williams, that "the total of really different 'Characters in the Chinese language' sanctioned by good usage does not vary greatly from twenty five thousand".

Few foreigners ever achieve a vocabulary of over five thousand words or characters in Chinese.

Why, then, do not the European Governments employ only Chinese Interpreters, whose larger range of language gives them greater facilities for expression of ideas?

Simply because of the necessity  
 of having some trustworthy and  
 reliable Interpreters of the same nationality  
 as the Consulate to which he is attached;  
 to guard against Asiatic intrigue, desert,  
 misrepresentation, venality, treachery,  
 immorality, indignity, secretiveness,  
 unfaithfulness, and carelessness or laziness;  
 with obsequiousness to higher officials  
 of China; or expectation of advantage or benefit  
 from vicious acts; which could be concealed  
 if native Interpreters were the only means  
 of communication <sup>between</sup> foreign and Chinese officials.  
 Under the American system of relying  
 wholly upon Chinese Interpreters at  
 U.S. Consulates in China, U.S. Consuls  
 are placed at serious disadvantage, as  
 compared with Consuls of European  
 Governments, who have intermediate safety.



It is ~~not~~ <sup>very</sup> easy to fully express  
the force of the principle that is brought  
forth against any ~~Chinese~~  
who ~~transcribes~~ <sup>transcribes</sup> fidelity to interests  
of foreigners in any degree conflicting  
with those of the Chinese.

Nor, it may be coming to any one  
who has not witnessed the power  
of Caste in Asia, a correct impression  
of the opportunities and temptations  
that beset and surround those  
who are invested with official  
authority or influence, to exert  
it for personal ends and base purposes.

Treaty stipulations and long  
usage have classified foreign  
and native officials, as to rank,  
and the Interpreter of a Consulate  
ranks with scholars and officials of importance.

It is almost impossible for a Chinese Interpreter to long resist the temptations to levy monthly tribute or stipends, and establish a revenue of ten times his salary; by permitting some crafty friend to go among the keepers of brothels and gambling dens, with threats that unless specified payments are regularly paid the Interpreter and his Consul will cause the property of those dens of vice and infamy to be confiscated by the Chinese Authorities; and their bodies tortured.

The U.S. Consulate at Canton has had, I believe, more than one such Interpreter.

In selecting an Interpreter, I have exercised the ~~ut~~ most care to avoid the possibility of any trouble of that nature; but constant vigilance will be exercised in guarding this point.

One Chinaman, who has had  
 eleven years of experience in the service  
 of the United States, as Interpreter  
 at the Consulate in Hong Kong,  
 during the days of Consular Officers,  
 whose acts have already undergone  
 public inspection in U.S. Courts,  
 addressed me a letter, offering a  
 sum of seven thousand dollars  
 for his appointment as Interpreter  
 at this Consulate; where he could,  
 doubtless, extract a revenue ten  
 times as large as his salary by foul means.

By exhibiting his Commission,  
 bearing the signature of the President  
 of the United States, that Interpreter  
 could easily intimidate hundreds  
 of Chinamen, who are engaged in  
 illicit business, to contribute for safety.

After the President's Commission is once in the hands of an Anti-Official, no one can say where the mischief ends.

Take one case in point.

The Register of the Department of State, issued and corrected to October 1, 1884, carries the name of "Yu C. Cheung" as Interpreter at this Consulate; notwithstanding (I have frequently reported his name might be omitted, and he has long ago ceased to be the Interpreter.

By accumulations and indolence, "Yu C. Cheung" could buy the property of the entire Corps of foreign Consuls in China; and with the President's Commission and the Register he can be "rock of the work."

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~~The~~ C. Coheun, was detained  
 in taking the U.S. Consular Seal  
 from the U.S. Consulate into the  
 City of Canton; and using it,  
 or permitting it to be used, as a  
 seal to a form-contract of a  
 questionable nature, while  
 the Consul was absent on leave,  
 and when the "Vice Consul in Charge"  
 was in ignorance as to the transaction.  
 That was in 1879, three days  
 after the departure of Consul  
 Lincoln and the arrival of Vice  
 Consul Cheshire.

Many other bad things were  
 charged against Yu C. Coheun;  
 such as exacting tribute from  
 Chinese keepers of bathes and  
 gambling dens; and collecting debts of Chinese;  
 by virtue of his official position and intercourse  
 with Chinese Officials.

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The ~~probability~~ of his ~~signature~~  
was only equalled by his ~~signature~~  
shortly; and signatures of  
such men as the ~~dean~~  
Rev. D. H. H. & the W. Council  
and others, were found affixed  
to documents in the Chinese  
Official archives, apparently;  
but when their genuineness was  
called in question, the mystery  
could not be solved without implicating  
the Interpreter, Yu C. Cheung;  
*omit* (whose name is retained in the  
Register of the State Department  
upto October 1884.

By reference to Vice Consul  
Cheshire's dispatch N<sup>o</sup> 92 and 95  
to the Department of State in November  
and December 1879, it will be seen Yu C.  
Cheung, the Interpreter, was suspended.  
The Cheshire dispatches N<sup>o</sup> 104 to 107 added important

By reference to Consul Lincoln's Dispatch No. 118 to the Department of State, dated May 1<sup>st</sup> 1880, it will be seen that C. Cheung, the suspended Interpreter, was re-instated.

The Department of State, in Dispatch No. 50 dated June 7, 1880, approved of Vice Consul Cochrane's action; and in Dispatch No. 51, dated June 21, 1880, disapproved of Consul Lincoln's course; but still, after removing the Consul, retained the name of the Interpreter in the Register, notwithstanding these dispatches.

As a matter of record, it appears by Consul Lincoln's dispatch No. 122, to the Department of State, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1880, that C. Cheung, ~~Interpreter~~, resigned.

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Reference to the instruction from the Department of State to the Consul at Canton, dated August 24<sup>th</sup> 1880 ought to be conclusive proof that the retirement of Mr. S. S. Williams is agreeable to the Department; and if so, his name might have been omitted from the Register; while others have temporarily, one after another, performed the duties of Interpreter more or less satisfactorily, and received payment for their services.

<sup>begin</sup> No prudent Consul would be willing, without a fair trial of a Chinese Interpreter, to recommend or nominate him for that office; and it requires considerable time to take the exact measure of the average Chinaman. He develops slowly



There are many reasons why the Chinese Interpreter as the United States Government in China, and more particularly in Canton China, should not be invested with Commission from the President of the United States; and I do most sincerely hope no Chinese Interpreter will ever hold a Commission at this Legation. Every General knows the difficulty of getting Chinese Interpreters and Writers to begin their work much before eleven o'clock in the forenoon; as their breakfast hour is about ten o'clock; and belonging, as they do, to the literary class, deem it their prerogative to move with such deliberation, and with such style, and at such hours, as to let every<sup>one</sup> know they are not "labors".

With flowing poms, and fans, they  
 assume ways that repudiate labor,  
 to a degree that would not be  
 tolerated for a moment by  
 any business community in  
 America or Europe; and if they  
 are to be invested with Commissions  
 from the President, the Consuls would  
 have to climb a flag-staff to live  
 on the lofty plane to which the  
 Interpreters would be elevated.  
 It is utterly destructive of all  
 business efficiency for our Government  
 to thus elevate Asiatic employees;  
 when our Consuls have to use their  
 utmost diligence to get half a day's  
 work out of Interpreters and Writers.  
 But when it is considered that  
 base ends are served by investing Chinese

Interpreters with credentials which enable them to carry on illicit transactions with their dependant countrymen; it is to be hoped such Commissions will not be issued.

These Chinese Interpreters, having in the United States Consulates some of those checks or guards that are found in European Consulates, which have trained European Interpreters, to discern what is officially communicated between the Consulates and the "Sutheiriks," are "masters of the situation" enough, without standing upon the same footing as to official recognition by Commissions. By every consideration of sound policy, Commissions should not be issued to any Asiatic employed in any United States Consulate in China.

7

The moral obtuseness of the Chinese  
is realized by the more experienced foreign  
missionaries in all parts of China;  
and they concur in one thing - viz:  
that it is the most difficult of  
all things to get the idea into  
Chinese men's heads that he is a sinner.  
Moral turpitude is something  
that the average Chinese man  
cannot comprehend.

With such materials to deal with,  
on what can a President base  
a Commission which opens with the  
assurance - "Now ye, that reposing  
"special trust and confidence in  
"the abilities and integrity of" ("Ye"  
"C. Cheung" - &c. &c.)??

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
To The Third Asst. Sec. }  
of State. } W. C. Brown  
Washington, D.C. } Canton



No. 72

*W. Everett*  
*St. Clair*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*Aug 4 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Alce,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Epidemic.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Particulars as to causes  
and effects of the disease.  
Sanitary affairs.*

No. 72

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 4<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. A. A. Phelps.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you, that during the past month, Canton has experienced unusual severity of an epidemic, which makes its appearance here, with more or less virulence, every Spring; and although there is no reason to believe it has assumed, or is likely to assume, a contagious character; it is nevertheless of sufficient importance to justify a special communication on sanitary affairs.

Processions of Chinese people yesterday, marched through several streets of the City of Canton, bearing idols from some of the temples, and exploding fire-crackers profusely, and beating songs, "for the purpose of driving away from the afflicted districts the demon of the plague", as was alleged, with strong belief in the efficacy of such means to arrest the progress of the destroyer of life and happiness.

The disease is something of the nature of, and probably is, "Asiatic Cholera"; which I have endeavored to investigate, by extended walks through the City; and diligent enquiries of natives, of missionaries, of doctors, and others who have knowledge of its progress.

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The nature is generally among the poor and crowded class; and its cause is so natural, as its effects are legitimate and decisive.

The duration of the illness is brief, seldom lasting more than a day, and usually results in death within from two to ten hours - often in an hour, and sometimes apparently, after a few minutes of gripping pains.

To what extent the fatality has reached is unknown; but the cases number hundreds.

Foreigners who have resided here many years are so accustomed to the annual visitation of this disease during the Spring, that they manifest no great solicitude; as it seems to be confined to natives, who disregard all sanitary precautions, and thereby suffer.



The causes are chiefly or mainly developed during the months between Winter and Summer, when the temperature changes between cool nights and warm days, and vice versa. Few houses in Southern China are ever warmed by fire.

Against these changes of temperature between the heat of mid-day and the coolness of night, little or no protection is observed by the poor laborers, whose scant garments of filthy cotton afford no protection from chills by night air, after exposure to the sun during the working hours of the day.

After the fatigue and heat of the day, the native laborers fall asleep under the agreeable breeze from the North at night; and thus gradually but surely impair resources of vitality.

Another cause is neglect in regard to accumulation of filth, which, during the colder months of Winter, did not last long and noxious effluvia, until the warmer months of Spring and early Summer made them, more or less, pestilential.

A prolific source of trouble is the brackishness of water used by the common people in food and drink, after the long period of drought, extending from four to six months, until the streams are raised by the Spring rains.

During such periods of drought the streams become too feeble to send back the salt water which is brought up into the streams by flood tides; and the wells into which the river-water filters become too brackish for use.

These are the preparatory causes,  
but the crowning mischief occurs  
at the appearance of unripe fruit  
(such as unripe peaches and lychees in spring and May)  
which is eagerly devoured by masses  
of people who are poorly supplied  
with wholesome and nutritious food;  
and whose systems have been  
impaired by exposures, and difficulties,  
and indiscretions, already mentioned.

As to the treatment of diseases,  
it has been said by the eminent physician  
and surgeon, Dr. John L. Kerr (for  
over thirty years the Superintendent  
of the great Medical Mission Hospital  
in Canton), "The physicians of all"  
"barbarous and"  
"Semi-civilized Nations are entirely"  
"ignorant of anatomy and physiology."  
"the nature of disease is unknown - the"  
"properties of medicines are, to a great extent unknown -"  
"the practice of surgery is of the rudest and most primitive"  
"and rude kind - the laws of hygiene are entirely disregarded"

12

The cessation of war whose  
immediate consequences the need of  
posts still in surgery, and medicine  
among the Chinese, and on the request  
of high officials in China, England  
and American Consuls have been  
called into requisition, from Canton,  
to relief wounded officers and  
soldiers of the Chinese army,  
at the Southern frontier, and in  
Formosa. This is a concession to Western Science.

While there is no prospect  
that the disease that is now  
prevailing here will become  
contagious, it is proper that  
the facts above and previously  
stated should be communicated  
to the Department, in compliance  
with requirements respecting sanitary affairs.

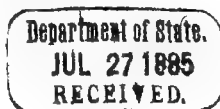
Should it, however, assume  
a more serious or threatening  
form, I shall acquaint you  
of the fact; but unless it  
does so, no further statement  
on the subject will be made.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant  
Charles Seymour  
W. Counsel



*ac* *Jul 31/85* *H. C. Clair*

*No. 73*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 8<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee.*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*U. S. Consular Agencies  
Closed at Kium-chow  
(Hoikow) and Pakhoi.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Complainer with instructions,  
approved by U. S. Consul General,  
with facts concerning those  
Agencies; as per Department's dispatch No. 59.*

No. 77

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 8<sup>th</sup> 1885.

Wm. A. Foster.

Third Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that agreeably with instructions from the Department of State in dispatch numbered 59, under date of March 31, 1885, I have, with the approval of the Consul General of the United States at Shanghai, closed the U.S. Consular Agencies at Kieny-chow (Hoichow) and Pakhoi; as recommended in my dispatch No. 49 to the Department of State.

Before submitting the question to the McClellan General, I carefully examined the matter, to be sure that existing circumstances justify the recommendation made in my dispatch No. 49, dated 13<sup>th</sup> May 1884; and found, by reference to the records of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Report and Returns, that no American ship or vessel visited either Keung-chow (Hoikow), or Peking, during the year 1884.

There is no American citizen residing at Keung-chow (Hoikow), or on the Island of Hainan, of which Keung-chow (Hoikow) is the chief or only port, and until recently no American ships or vessels, and now only those in the Chinese Customs Service,



On May 20<sup>th</sup> 1885, I addressed  
Messrs. Russell and Company,  
sole owners and representatives  
nearly all of the American  
steamships employed in the  
Chinese Coast-trade, stating-

"I will feel obliged by any"  
"information as to the prospect"  
"or probability of American ships"  
"(especially of Messrs. Russell & Co's"  
"fleet) frequenting the port of"  
"Pakhoi, and the port of"  
"Kuing-tchow (Hoikow)."

Messrs. Russell and Company  
replied, under date of Hong Kong  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 1885, - "We regret"  
"that at present there is no probability"  
"of any of our steamers calling at Pakhoi"  
"or Hoikow; nor do we know of any American"  
"steamships likely to go to either of these ports."

✓

In submitting these facts to the  
 General Consul of the United States  
 at Shanghai, in Dispatch No. 175,  
 dated May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1885, I stated -  
 "That makes a small exhibit"  
 "of American interests at those ports."  
 "Under these circumstances there"  
 "seems to be no more need of keeping"  
 "United States Consular Offices at"  
 "Kwang-chow (Hoikow) and Pakhoi,"  
 "than at any of thousands of places"  
 "where there are no American"  
 "citizens, interests, ships, and"  
 "Commerce; and if your approval"  
 "is granted, I shall proceed to execute"  
 "the instructions of the Department"  
 "to close those Offices."

In Dispatch numbered 109, dated  
 May 29<sup>th</sup> 1885, the U. S. General Consul said -

"Having considered the reasons advanced"  
 "by you why these agencies should be"  
 "closed, my approval is granted."

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1885, the date on which  
 the U.S. Consul General's approval was  
 received, I notified the British Consul,  
 acting as U.S. Consul at agents, at Kiang-  
 Chow (Hoikow), and Pakhoi, as  
 per copies of dispatches hereto  
 appended; thanking them for their  
 kindness; and requesting them to  
 pack, and send to this Consulate,  
 the archives and property appertaining  
 to those Agencies.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
 Charles Seymour  
 U.S. Consul.

(Copy) A

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1885.

Clement J. R. Allen, Esquire.

A. B. M.'s Consul, Pankhoi.

Sir:

I have the honor to tender to you my sincere thanks for your kindness in consenting to act as U. S. Consular Agent at Pankhoi; but I am instructed by the Department of State of the United States to close the U. S. Consular Agency at Pankhoi; and ~~that~~ the U. S. Consul General approves of this course. Be kind enough to pack the archives, records, stationery, seals, and property of the U. S. Consular Agency at Pankhoi, in a box; and send the same to me, with a memorandum of any expense incurred in so doing, or for postage &c. Are there any publications sent to the U. S. Consular Agent or Agency at Pankhoi?

Thanking you again for your great kindness,

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(signed) Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

(Copy)  $\frac{2}{A}$

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1885.

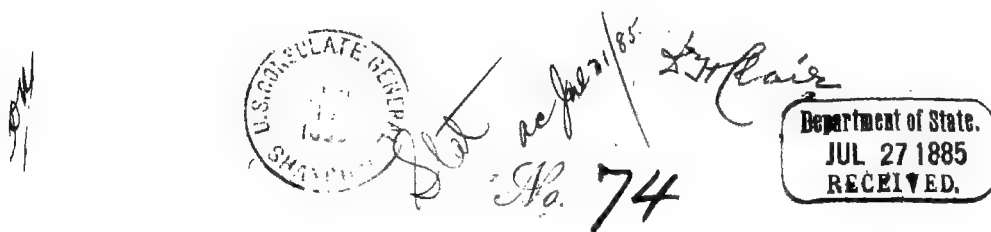
T. Watters, Esquire, U. S. Consul  
Hing Chow (Hoikow).

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of May 23, 1885; and to express sincere thanks for your kindness, in consenting to act as U. S. Consular Agent at Hing Chow (Hoikow), and with the approval of your Legation. The Department of State of the United States has instructed me to close the United States Consular Agency at Hing Chow (Hoikow); and the U. S. Consul General approves of this course. Be kind enough to send to me the archives, stationery, records, books, seals, and property of the U. S. Consular Agency at Hing Chow, packed in a box; and advise me of contents of the box or boxes, date of shipment, with Bill of Lading; and a memorandum of any expense incurred in so doing, and postage—*etc.* Are any publications sent to the U. S. Consular Agent or to the Agency? Thanking you again for your kindness—

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

signed, Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 13<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Adee,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Commercial information  
from Canton and Southern China.*

SYNOPSIS.

*(Duplicate files for publication)*

No. 74.

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 13<sup>th</sup> 1895

Mr. [illegible]

Dear Sir:

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to lay  
before you the following items of  
Commercial information.

Commerce and War.

Commerce in Southern China has  
been maintained during the past two  
years under difficulties growing out of  
disturbed relations between China and France.

Canton is the financial and commercial  
center of Southern China; and being the most  
wealthy city in the Chinese Empire, it has  
been intimately identified with the military  
operations  
of a defensive nature that were deemed

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necessary by the Authorities to guard against invasion by water or land.

Not only have the Authorities at Canton adopted extensive and expensive measures to secure this ancient and opulent Metropolis of Southern China against the approach of any hostile fleet of ships, by an elaborate system of fortifications, barriers, obstructions and torpedoes, between Canton and the Sea; but from Canton have been sent the military forces, equipments, and supplies, to guard the Southern frontier against invasion via Tonquin.

At Canton have centered the numerous regiments of soldiers from northern, central and southern China, for organization, distribution, and assignment, according to exigencies and developments.



Within the past two years telegraphic communication, between Canton and various parts of the Chinese Empire, and with the Southern frontier, have been established.

Canton has thus been closely alive to the occurrences, contingencies, and effects of war.

Capital being timid amid uncertainties, men of prudence and wealth, at the outset of warlike operations, vigorously aimed to avoid the risks and hazards of war, by curtailing business operations; by withdrawing from liabilities and exposures to losses; and by seeking safety for their property, from the two fold danger of disaster in extended commercial operations, and exactions growing out of the pecuniary necessities of the Authorities.

4/

~~unhappily~~, then troubles seem to be nearly at an end; and with the restoration of peace, it is hoped prosperity will return to the various branches of industry; and that all departments of Commerce will soon be in operation.

It is to be feared, however, that the expenses incurred in defensive measures will continue for awhile to encumber Commerce with burdens; which, indirectly, but none the less severely, affect many foreign interests; as is the case in regard to imposition of a heavy lee kin tax, in addition to the ordinary duty, on the important item of American Commodities - Kerosene; and similarly in regard to other articles.

( Foreign )

Necessity of Railways realized in China.

Foreign and Domestic relations since  
 China's recent fall, ultimately,  
 at her industrial benefits from the  
 losses, disasters, developments, and  
 incidents of the recent war; which  
 has forcibly demonstrated and practically  
 illustrated the policy or necessity of  
 establishing a system of rapid and  
 efficient communication, between  
 important points in the interior of  
 China, by means of railways;  
 to prevent a repetition of the  
 trouble and humiliation experienced  
 by the Chinese, in having supplies  
 of food for their armies cut off by the  
 interruption of Coast-Commerce; and  
 by declarations, by a foe, as to  
 articles or commodities "contraband  
 of War".

(The)

The time has arrived for a successful advocacy of railways throughout this vast Empire of China; and if the subject is judiciously presented and advocated, there is no reason why, with superior training and experience in and for the construction of these great highways of commerce, economically, efficiently, and rapidly, Americans may not take and keep or maintain the lead in this enterprise; for which the American railway system has developed superior talent and facility; and especially as the Government of the United States of America is almost the only one of the great Powers of the West which seeks no territorial or colonial acquisitions, in Asia, or elsewhere.

The security and integrity of the Empire, which would be greatly promoted by a well-designed railway system, not only as means of defense against foreign foes, but also in respect to facilities which would enable the authorities to promptly suppress local or internal disturbances that so frequently occur, would, necessarily, enter largely into consideration, before cordial adoption of any railway system could be achieved in Conservative China; but the long-deferred time has evidently come for inaugurating the progressive, civilizing, and beneficent railway system, which shall open up the interior of China to Commerce.

I respectfully commend this subject to the attention of our Government, and of enterprising Americans.

Measure are in progress among European Capitalists to take the initiative, by offering loans of money to be expended in railways in China.

This enterprise can be more successfully carried on by Americans, whose experience in trans-continental railways, whose superior implements and facilities for constructing railways, and whose favorable communications with China, give them obvious advantages.

The pacific policy of the Government of the United States should give its citizens favor and preference with the Chinese Government, in carrying forward an enterprise of this nature, in which foreigners connected therewith might and would have vested rights.

5

The scheme embraces and includes so many important interests in the event of actual operations, that it seems to be worthy of careful attention; for it opens up not only a large field for the employment of the engineering talent, financial resources, constructing implements, bridge materials, Engines, rolling stock, and supplies of various kinds; but, apart from the national prestige and influence to be derived from a successful prosecution of the work, the material benefits to be gained are incalculable, while the range of American commerce is sure to be enlarged thereby in the East.

If, under the auspices of our Government,  
 any American citizens see fit to  
 have the question fairly tested,  
 the present is a favorable time  
 to commence negotiations, on  
 some well-defined plan which  
 shall combine two essential points  
 to wit: the consolidation of the Bank,  
 which would be chief consideration in  
 granting the franchise, or consenting  
 to any railway system; and the  
 judicious location of railways,  
 with reference to remuneration  
 instruments, to attract capital.  
 Having thus presented for  
 consideration a matter of  
 greater importance than any other  
 that can be mentioned, I will  
 proceed with trade statistics and  
 suggestions of commercial significance.



A.D. 1884 a good year in China. //

The year 1884 was remarkable for the abundant harvests in Southern China; as well as throughout the Chinese Empire; and this fact doubtless gave tone and stability to business, as represented in the Chinese trade returns cleared, at the several ports, through and by the Imperial Maritime Customs, in a year when warlike operations seemed to be serious obstacles to commerce. So it may be inferred that if peace, instead of war, had prevailed, the past year would have been one of unprecedented prosperity in China. Under favorable circumstances, with neither drought or floods, two or three crops were raised during a twelve-month in parts of China.

12/

## Agriculture in Southern China.

In the Province of Kwang Tung, and in the vicinity of Canton, the conditions are favorable for agriculture and horticulture, when the seasons are regular, and when the numerous water-ways are not too much swollen by excessive rains, and when the soil is not baked by prolonged seasons of drought, as the temperature, for several years past in the cool months of December, January, and February, has not gone below  $38^{\circ}$  above Zero, Fahrenheit; and scarcely gets down to the "Freezing Point" ( $32^{\circ}$ ) once in ten years. Ice has been seen for a short time at day break in Winter; but it vanishes after a few minutes exposure to the sun.

Thus it will be seen the absence of frost at and about Canton, with its abundant means of irrigation, favors vegetable

4

And the mildness of climate also favors the growth of mulberry trees, and silk-culture, to a degree of excellence that is unknown in the Central and Northern Provinces of China, or Japan; although silk-culture is carried on throughout the greater portion of both Empires.

In realizing three crops per annum from the same soil in Southern China, cultivators adapt their crops to the seasons, and fertilize the land with liquid manure, and surround the plots by raised earthen barriers or narrow dikes, to keep the fertilizing properties from being washed away, so that the soil shall be nourished, and absorb the full strength of fertilizers, and be productive of the best possible results. Gardeners would be a more proper term than farmers, as small tracts of land are cultivated by tillers of the soil.

14

The year being divided in "moons" instead of "months" in China, an intercalary month is thrown in about once in four years to even matters up; but the New Year begins about the first of February, in ordinary years - sometimes a week or ten days earlier or later than that date. The rainy season begins usually with the second moon, or about first of March, and continues a couple of months, with copious and frequent showers for two months more.

The ground is prepared for the first crop of rice in the first moon, or February, or at the latest in the second moon, or March; and is usually ready to be harvested in May, or by first of June; when the second crop of rice is put in; and as it is in rows, and not "broadcast" or scattering, beans, corn, and other crops are cultivated, & the same time, mature and ripen after the second rice harvest.

15

About eight of the thirteen "moons" have been consumed in cultivating and raising and harvesting the two crops of rice; and the ground becoming too dry for another crop of rice, the remaining third of the year, or last four or five of the thirteen "moons" of the year, will be devoted to crops of vegetables, including squashes, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, marrows, &c. &c., which ripen in the eleventh and twelfth moons of the year, in good time for preparation of the ground for the first crop of rice of the succeeding year.

Thus, by nourishing the soil, and keeping its fertility up to the fullest capacity of productiveness; and by vigilant and thorough cultivation; these Chinese gardeners (small farmers) achieve marvelous results in agriculture.

16

The implements of agriculture, or farming utensils, little or no improvement or progress have been noticed by the observer. The wide, and heavy, and clumsy hoe, used in breaking and mellowing the land, preparatory to seeding and rains or irrigation, seems to be unnecessarily cumbersome; but, still, the work is thoroughly performed, and results justify, in this case, the means.

When the ground is flooded and thus softened, a rude and mean sort of a plow is drawn across the field, to make trenches for rows of rice, or other crops. There are no horses or draft cattle employed in farm work. The plow or harrow is pulled by one ox, with a hump on his shoulders, and little or no hair on his slate colored hide.

17

*Swine seem to be numerous in Southern China. The ground is too soft and wet, for the first half of the year; for cattle grazing; and can be more advantageously employed in the rice already mentioned. In some hilly districts a few cows are raised; but they are sold for beef, while the oxen, if of good size, are used to pull the plow and harrow.*

*There are no flocks of sheep are seen South of the Yangtze Valley, or Central China.*

*The swine of Southern China are the best of animal production; and are like the best breeds of swine raised in America - small bones, easily fattened, and yield large proportion of flesh. Pork is the third largest item of food among Chinese - rice and fish being first and second, always excepting vegetables, which are dished up in many forms, from garages to soups. Every city and village has fish ponds and duckeries.*

18

## Food and Subsistence.

As the average cost or expense of feeding an adult laborer, house and farm servants, and common artisans; shop-keepers, clerks, and ordinary Chinamen, is about one dollar and eighty cents per annum in month; it is safe to say fish and fowl are not within their reach every meal or every day - rice being the chief food throughout Eastern and Central Asia. At the North and Northwest, where large flocks of sheep are abundant, mutton is largely consumed; but in Southern China, it is only found on the tables of Europeans and foreigners, and comfortable Chinamen, who patronize dealers in sheep brought by steamships from the North. Among the great bulk of Chinese, there is an aversion to eating hog, because of the utility of Opium in cultivating the soil. In some Districts the slaughter of cattle is forbidden for that reason.



## Absence of reliable data about Commerce.

In ascertaining reliable data on which to compute the total value of Commerce at any Chinese port, one's chief reliance is upon the carefully tabulated returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs, wholly operated by foreign officials, and embracing reports only of imports and exports per foreign vessels, and steamers; while all imports and exports per native vessels are omitted, as the import and export duties on all merchandise or commodities per native craft are collected by contractors who buy that franchise by paying a round sum, without being compelled to let any one know whether it was, or was not, a profitable speculation or transaction for the Chinese Syndicates of the several Customs Districts.

20

Consequently the extent of traffic for native vessels is unknown, except to those who are interested in keeping it secret.

Between Canton and Hong Kong there are hundreds of native junks engaged in transportation; and their total tonnage would be about 15,000 tons for every hundred junks. I would not put the total number below 200, or over 400. If we say 300 junks, there would be a tonnage of about 45,000; of whose business there is positively no record.

Hong Kong being a "free-port," no Custom House statistics are there found.

Another unreliable feature in these Imperial Customs Statistics; which in treatment of all imports and exports per their Steamers between Hong Kong and Canton as from or to a British port, notwithstanding the ports of other Nations sent or received the merchandise.

That if an American, German,  
 or French ship discharges a cargo  
 of merchandise at Hong Kong, and it  
 is conveyed by the River Steamer to Canton,  
 the Canton Customs return will show that  
 properly; as an importation from Great Britain;  
 and in like manner, if and when merchandise  
 is sent per River Steamer to Hong Kong to  
 be transferred to an American, German, or  
 French steamer, it is placed in the  
 Customs Return as exports to Great Britain;  
 notwithstanding it may be conveyed by actual  
 invoices as exports to other countries.

Still, there appears to be no other  
 data available except the Returns  
 and Reports of the Imperial Maritime  
 Customs; and as far as they go,  
 must be received as accurate, with the  
 exception just mentioned as to nationality of  
 imports and exports.

22

Commerce of Quang Tung Exceeds one fifth  
of the Commerce of the Chinese Empire.

By reference to these official returns the total value of imports and exports for 1883 and 1884 were about \$350,000,000 each year.

In 1883 the foreign imports were about \$122,000,000; and in 1884 about \$120,000,000.

In 1883 the foreign exports were about \$105,000,000; and in 1884 they were about \$101,000,000.

The value of imports from native ports in 1884 amounted to about \$73,000,000; and

the value of exports to native ports was \$60,500,000.

The total value of imports and exports reported by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs for the nineteen ports where these Custom Houses are established amounted in the year 1884, as above stated, to about \$350,000,000; of which about \$75,000,000 were reported at the four Custom Houses of Canton, Swatow, Pakhoi, and Kiating Chow, in Quang Tung Province.

257

Assuming, as a basis of estimate, that the large fleet of junks engaged in the carrying trade between Canton and Hong Kong and other sea-ports, make a round trip of less than two hundred miles once a month; and, for the space of two months, suspend business for holidays, rest, and lack of traffic, there would be ten round trips per year; which would make the annual tonnage of that fleet of junks not far from 500,000 tons. This would be a moderate allowance; as the tides & current will convey a junk from Canton to Hong Kong in two days easily; and the return trip could be made in from three to five days. That would leave over ten days at each end of this short route for receiving and discharging cargo.

This tonnage (500,000 tons) is  
 equivalent to 1,000,000,000 pounds  
 each way, or 2,000,000,000 pounds in all.  
 At the low valuation of two and a  
 half cents per pound, the junk cargo  
 would amount to \$50,000,000;  
 which is probably too small an estimate.  
 It would be safer to say that it  
 is about the same value as the  
 cargo reported by the Imperial Customs  
 for steamships and foreign vessels  
 = \$75,000,000; and adding this  
 as the basis of estimate, we arrive  
 at the conclusion that the total  
 import and export trade of the  
 Province of Kwang Tung alone  
 is about \$150,000,000 per annum,  
 besides the junk traffic to and  
 from the three ports of Swatow,  
 Pakhoi, and Kiating Chow, in Kwang Tung Province.

C 21

These figures clearly indicate the importance of this Southern Province of Kwang Tung in respect to Commerce. It should be known, too, that Canton Capital moves the great tea crop which goes to Hankow on the River Yangtze for annual market in May, from the rich tea district, 300 miles north of Canton, and 200 miles south of the Yangtze; and this vast tea trade would be restored to Canton by the creation of railway communication. In former times it was brought to Canton; and the recovery of that important trade would be one of the considerations that would influence the business elements of this wealthy Metropolis to favor the introduction of railways.

1/  
A false system in regard to Canton Commerce <sup>leading to</sup> <sub>ruin</sub>

It is, indeed, a mystery, and a matter of surprise, that a false and fictitious impression regarding the commerce of Canton should be kept up in America, by the action of the United States Government, in persisting, or permitting, for many years past, a system which is utterly discarded and forbidden in respect to commerce from or with other ports and countries.

The U.S. Government does not permit the Certification of Invoices at Consulates in Great Britain for merchandise from other <sup>European</sup> countries destined to the United States, although London and Liverpool may be the ports from which such merchandise may ultimately enter ships going to the United States of America.



27

But, notwithstanding, Canton sends large quantities of Chinese products and manufactures to the United States of America, by the fleet of seven steamships with an aggregate of over 30,000 tons capacity, plying regularly between Hong Kong and San Francisco; and by regular steamships between Hong Kong and New York, via Suez Canal; and by sailing vessels to California and Oregon direct, and to New York via Cape of Good Hope; probably not one fifth of this merchandise of Chinese production from Canton is embroved in tinies certified at the H. P. Consulate in Canton; but the bulk of it is certified to at Hong Kong, and is thus treated as "British Commerce," contrary to facts and regulations.

87

Consuls are powerless to enforce  
Circulars from the State and Treasury  
Departments on this subject, so  
long as the United States  
Custom Houses permit the  
merchandise to enter, and  
certified at Consulates that are  
not in the Country where the  
goods were produced, marketed,  
and prepared for exportation to the  
United States. The Treasury Department can apply the  
remedy. Although Chinese carrying on  
an extensive traffic between Canton  
and the United States, there is not  
on record at the U.S. Consulate in  
Canton any case of an invoice  
of merchandise from, for, or to  
a Chinaman, having been certified  
at the U.S. Consulate. This is all wrong;  
and the remedy should come through U.S. Custom House

### Prominent Features of Imports.

(29)

-Opium heads the list of Chinese imports - amounting in 1883 to \$97,500,000, and in 1884 to \$99,250,000; of which last mentioned imports, Opium, Gunter, Pothoi and Kaiming Opium, in this Province of Kwang Tung, received in 1884 about \$5,300,000; as reported through Imperial Maritime Customs; but these figures do not fully represent the receipts of Opium; which is smuggled extensively to evade the duty and custom tax, amounting to about one dollar per pound.

Cotton goods stand second in value among the importations of China, amounting (exclusive of raw cotton) to about \$33,000,000 in 1883; and \$33,000,000 in 1884.

Raw Cotton imports were \$3,000,000 in 1883; and about \$2,750,000 in 1884.

2

Of the entire importation of  
cotton goods into China in 1884,  
about \$22,000,000, or two thirds,  
consisted of grey and white shirtings,  
drills, jeans, trills, sheetings,  
and smaller quantities of prints,  
turkey reds, cambrics, muslins, &c.,  
about \$3,000,000 unclassified;  
and about \$8,500,000 in Cotton  
Yarn and thread.

The province of Kwang Tung,  
at the four Imperial Custom Houses  
in Canton, Swatow, Kienghow  
and Pakhoi, received of the above imports  
of <sup>foreign</sup> cotton goods, in 1884, \$7,500,000;  
of which \$5,276,000 consisted of  
Cotton yarn to be manufactured into cloth.  
Of the total imports of \$2,750,000 of  
Raw cotton into China in 1884,  
the Province of Kwang Tung received \$1,976,300.  
These significant facts point to manufacturing in

Metals stand third on the list  
 of imports into China, amounting  
 in 1884 to about \$6,000,000,  
 which was nearly \$1,000,000 less  
 than in 1883. One fourth of the  
 total of metal imports consisted  
 of tin-plates - then followed  
 iron nail-rod, iron-ware, lead,  
 iron-bar, hardware, copper-sheet,  
 copper-bar and rod, and sundries.  
 This Prince of Lianyung received about  
 \$600,000, or one tenth of the total metal imports.  
 Of woollen or woven goods which stand  
 fourth on list of imports into China,  
 amounting in 1884 to \$5,500,000; over  
 one fourth consisted of Camlets; over  
 one fourth were lustings and long-ells;  
 and the remainder of blankets, lustres,  
 cloth, Spanish stripes, and miscellaneous Sundries.

32)

The Province of Kwang Tung received \$1,117,000 of these Woollen imports.

Coal was imported into China in 1884 to the extent of 269,378 tons, valued at about \$2,500,000; of which about 16,319 tons reached the Province of Kwang Tung, the most of it being at Swatow.

Kerosene Oil, from the United States, has increased at nearly all ports in China, according to the Imperial Customs Returns.

At Foo Chow the Authorities forbade the use of Kerosene; but at nearly all points it seems to be growing in public favor, and coming into more general use than formerly.

26

The Imperial Maritime Customs Returns do not include all the Kerosene imported into China.

The greater portion of Kerosene arriving at Canton, is brought from Hong Kong in native junks, and the duties are paid to the Contractor who bought the Kerosene monopoly from the Authorities, who imposed a local tax of forty cents per case in addition to the duty, in 1882; without notifying the foreign Consulates of the additional burden on this important item of Commerce. Kerosene does not appear among the list of imports in Imperial Customs Reports for Canton; but in their Report of Trade and Commerce for China, the increase is stated, from \$750,000 in 1881, to \$1,250,000 in 1884. These figures represent 5,000,000 gallons of Kerosene imported in 1884.

24  
The ports of Swatow, Ning-shan,  
and Peking, in this Province of  
Lung King received in 1884 about  
200,000 gallons valued at 25¢ per  
gallon = \$50,000; and from the  
quantities that have been seen  
on junks arriving in port, and  
from general information derived  
from business sources, I should  
estimate the quantity received  
at Canton to be four times as  
much as at all of the other three  
ports of this Province - thus make  
a total of 1,000,000 gallons  
of the value of \$250,000, for the  
Province of Lung King.

With the cessation of war,  
efforts should be made  
to induce the Imperial Government to end  
the mischief of severe local taxation  
upon this beneficent American commodity.



23

Financing, three fourths of which  
 was American, and the remainder  
 from Korea and Japan, was imported  
 into China, in 1884, to the value  
 of \$900,000, which was \$200,000  
 less than the importation in 1883;  
 and of the financing imports in 1884,  
 the Province of Kwang Tung took  
 \$255,000, or nearly two fifths, being  
 \$270,000 worth of native financing from  
 Northern China, which is prepared to finance financing.  
 This is the most celebrated and popular  
 nostrum in China, although it is regarded  
 of little or no value in America or European  
 pharmacopoeia. The prices of financing  
 range from one dollar per pound to  
 its weight in silver - two to three dollars  
 per pound being the ordinary price  
 of a good quality of refined American.

6/

Among the foreign imports into  
China in 1884 were about products  
of the sea, to the value of \$4,000,000,  
the most of which are commodities  
little known in America & Europe,  
and chiefly used by Chinese epicureans  
in dishes that enter into the menu  
of wealthy mandarins and merchants  
on festive occasions.

Of the numerous smaller items  
of imports from foreign countries  
are mentioned to the value of over  
\$1,000,000; of which this Province  
of Kwang Tung took \$200,000.

Of dyes, and dye-stuffs, and colors,  
Kwang Tung Province imported in  
1884 the value of \$150,000.

Kwang Tung Province received of  
American flour in 1884 \$133,500; and  
of American wheat \$125,000.

~~The reliable data notwithstanding~~  
 can be obtained in regard to the  
 importation of cheese, butter,  
 cheese, condensed milk, canned  
 fish, condensed meats, canned fruit,  
~~canned vegetables, etc.~~  
 Clocks, lamps, books, cutlery,  
 patent medicines, perfumeries,  
 and other commodities, which are  
 brought from the United States to  
 Canton, and all Chinese ports;  
 but they reach an aggregate  
 that is considerable, and might  
 be increased with proper attention.  
 Butter comes from France,  
 Denmark, Italy, Australia,  
 and New Zealand; but it is seldom  
 one sees in Canton American butter,  
 which might be easily introduced if packed  
 according to the demands of the climate in  
 small glass jars or tin cans of one pound each.

8/

### Prominent Features of Exports.

The relation of Guangtung Province to the Chinese Empire in regard to Exports is also of communicating importance.

The Exports of China to foreign countries in 1883 was about \$105,000,000; and in 1884 about \$100,750,000; which was nearly the same as in 1882.

Of the Exports in 1884, nearly one third was Silk; and about four tenths <sup>or 42 per cent.</sup> was Tea; and the remaining fourth consisted of sugar, straw-braid, paper, matting, clothing, China-ware, fire-crackers, hides, skins, glass bangles, nut-galls, rhubarb, hair, wool, pines, fruit, tobacco, hemp, musk, metal manufactures, bamboo-ware, wood-ware, &c. &c. &c., in their relative order as named.

Of the total Silk Exports of China, ~~the value alone~~ <sup>the value alone</sup> ~~amounted to~~ <sup>amounted to</sup> ~~about~~ <sup>about</sup> \$12,000,000 in value.  
(\$12,000,000)

34

about \$5,500,000 of them still  
 exported from Canton was raw  
 and unmanufactured silk,  
 and \$7,500,000 manufactured.  
 Although this large item  
 of silk exports was produced  
 in the immediate vicinity of  
 Canton, marketed in Canton,  
 prepared for shipment at  
 Canton and sent to America  
 and various countries of Europe,  
 from Canton, the bulk of it  
 stands in official records as  
 exports to Great Britain, because  
 the goods had to go to Hong Kong  
 per river steamers for transfer  
 to ocean steamships which  
 are unable to ascend the  
 Canton River to Canton.

40

This falseness and delusion  
 record is kept up by the Ad-  
 Government, which permits these  
 Chinese or Canton exports  
 to be entered at American  
 Custom Houses on invoices  
 certified at a Consulate  
 in a British port <sup>on a barren island</sup> which  
 produces nothing, manufactures  
 nothing, buys nothing, and  
 sells nothing, of the nature  
 of this merchandise; but is  
 simply an entre-pot.

Nearly all of the exports of Opium  
 from China are from this Province  
 of Kwang Tung, amounting in  
 value to about \$10,000,000  
 in 1884, mostly from Swatow,  
 and generally shipped to Hong Kong

The following are among the list  
of imports in 1884.

Tea (principally to London) \$4,000,000  
Firebricks ( " " ) \$22,000  
Hatteries ( " " ) \$44,000  
Shaw bangles, ornaments, beads (to India) \$360,000  
Shaw buttons, feet, thimble ( " " ) \$340,000  
Clothing, most silk (to China and India) \$505,000  
Shoes ( " " ) \$95,000  
Stockings ( " " ) \$36,000  
Medicines ( " " ) \$200,000  
Opium (to India) \$60,000  
Resins and lacabments \$270,000  
Dried Fruits (lychees &c) \$150,000  
Tobacco (mostly prepared) \$285,000  
Grass Cloth \$195,000  
Ladder stones \$138,000  
Bamboo Canes \$135,000  
Furniture and Wooden ware \$43,000

42

Lacquered	\$ 50.00
Mirrors	\$ 50.00
Incense	\$ 24.00
China ware	\$ 105.00
Gold wire and gold thread	\$ 105.00
Edible ware	\$ 65.00
Iron ware	\$ 25.00
Trufoil	\$ 20.00
Cassia	\$ 94.00
Tans	\$ 85.00
White & Yellow Lead	\$ 125.00
Horn Thorn-ware	\$ 72.00
Indigo	\$ 25.00
White wax	\$ 17.00
Rattanware	\$ 16.00
Human hair (81.000 <sup>th</sup> )	\$ 23.00
Native Cloth (for Chinamen)	\$ 70.00
Paper	\$ 220.00
Pictures on rice paper	\$ 17.00
Flowers, blossoms, seeds, etc. dried	\$ 32.00
etc. etc. etc. etc. etc.	



43

Of the total revenue reported by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs at all of the ports in China in 1884, amounting to about \$20,000,000, this Province of Kwang Tung gave about \$3,000,000, or  $\frac{1}{7}$  the total, while the revenue derived from the native junk traffic was probably as large in this Province of Kwang Tung as at all other ports outside of this Province.

The revenue at Canton Custom House for 1884, of 1885 indicates increase.

### Shipping.

The total tonnage of foreign shipping entered and cleared at Canton in 1884 was 2,020,335, including that of the daily steamers between Canton and Hong Kong. <sup>dellacasa</sup> Of that total tonnage, only 20,266 tons were of sailing vessels, — numbering 13, of which 7 were British, and 6 German.

48

The steamers entered and cleared numbered 1,000 each, of which 724 were British, 190 were ships that passed under the American flag about the end of July, 1884; (Eighty five) 85 German, and one Danish  
Buoys, Beacons, Lights, and Light Houses,

As only a limited number of Copies of the Chinese system and Code of Buoys, Beacons, Lights, and Light Houses Reports is published; and as it is of the utmost importance to the Warships of the United States Government, and all American shipping interests, ~~that they~~ should have correct information for the safe navigation along the Chinese Coast, and to and from Chinese ports; An Official Copy of the Report, with Charts, for 1885, is herewith sent for publicity in America

A

### Removal of Obstructions.

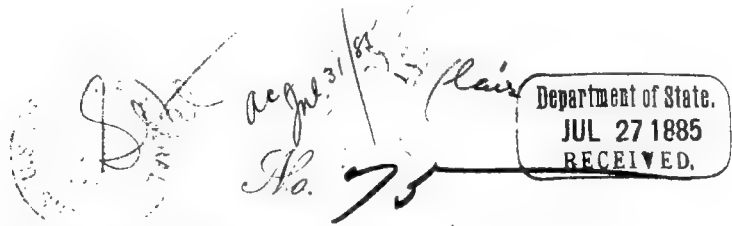
During the Japanese operations in Eastern China in 1884 and 1885, the Canton River has been seriously injured for navigation by destruction, some of which even, and doubtless, will be speedily repaired, after peace shall have been fully secured, as apparently, now nearly achieved; while others of these obstructions are of such a formidable character as to require time and money for their removal; and it is very doubtful if the navigation of this superb natural highway of Commerce will ever again be as good as it was before the channel was interfered with, and the navigation obstructed by bridges, piers, cribs of stone, &c. &c.

40/

Until the rapids are removed, and the obstructions are taken away, navigators will have to exercise great care in navigating the Canton River. The same deplorable injury has been done to other rivers and harbors in China, with similar results.

I respectfully suggest that the combined influence of all foreign governments represented by Legations at Peking, and interested in facilitating international Commerce, will be needed, and should be exercised, in inducing the Imperial Government of China to adopt vigorous measures for the restoration of these obstructed rivers and harbors to unobstructed navigation.

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 15 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. S. Alden,  
Third Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*American trade-extension  
in China and the East.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Best means of extending  
American commerce in  
China and the East.*

*Copies for publication*

7

No. 75

United States Consulate, Canton, China, . . .

June 15, 1885

Mr. Arthur B. Lee

Secy. of State

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state to you, that, having very carefully investigated the means by which trade between European Countries and Eastern Asia is kept abreast of trade between the United States of America and the far East, it has occurred to me that a few suggestions might be offered as to the best means of extending American Commerce, not only with China, but along the Coast between the Straits and Japan.

Numerically, British merchants have the advantage over all other foreign merchants and traders; and many of them are native young men who have had sound business training in Great Britain; and came out to China, measurably, under the auspices of strong commercial establishments in England and Scotland, or established firms in the East having intimate connections with wealthy houses in Great Britain.

In a majority of cases, these British merchants in the East are so thoroughly identified with the interests of British commerce, that they cannot be expected to favor the commerce of other countries.

15

German have the steadily  
succeeded in their efforts  
in establishing commercial interests,  
which are vigorously promoted  
by what seems to be something  
of the nature of Co-Operation,  
and by vested interest on the part  
of Consular officials who keep  
the German Government and  
people of Germany informed  
concerning opportunities for  
the extension of traffic between  
Germany and China.

The necessities of the scheme  
of trade-extension in the East  
by foreigners are such that  
no Country can hope to share  
in this Commerce unless it is  
strongly represented in business circles.



4 /  
 With very despatch numbered  
 58, dated November 19. 1884,  
 I sent to the Department of  
 State specimens of Cotton Cloth,  
 manufactured in Europe, and  
 sold in China, as American goods.

There may be, and doubtless are,  
 other commodities similarly treated.

The fact alone is a convenience  
 that in order to effect sales there  
 was an advantage gained by the  
 representation that these European goods  
 were of American production.

Now, the most effectual method  
 or means of getting the full benefit  
 of this favorable opinion in regard  
 to American Cotton goods is to have  
 them sold by Americans who  
 will visit all of the Chinese ports with their

1.

And the best means of doing this is by co-operation of half a dozen or more American firms, in as many branches of trade, in maintaining an American steamer of from 300 to 500 tons, stocked with goods, for sale and delivery to the Chinese shop-keepers, traders, and Compradore-shops where supplies are kept and sold, of merchandise of American production; with a certainty that visits of this kind will be repeated quarterly or oftener; which would soon establish an understanding that goods will be as represented; and that these opportunities of buying them from first hands will insure the greatest possible margin of profit.

By receiving fresh supplies of the goods thus sold, from time to time, by steamship arriving at Yokohama or Hong Kong, one very important point would be gained - viz: exemption from losses by perishable goods in large shipments.

One of the chief difficulties in regard to effecting sales of American commodities that are soon injured in tropical climate would thus be avoided.

If a large consignment or shipment of hams, bacon, cheese, butter, canned goods, ~~as is made~~ to the "Orient", there is certain to be a considerable per centage of loss; and the consumers are not certain whether there are fresh or old goods.

2

That is the reason why the  
 High Commission in London is fairly  
 supplied in London, and the fact  
 on the Chinese Coast, are compelled  
 to sell here at 35¢ to 45¢ per  
 pound; bacon at 35¢ to 40¢ per  
 pound; cheese at 45¢; butter  
 at 60¢; and many other similar  
 commodities at twice or three times  
 in America.

During the rainy season, too,  
 cloths, and similar merchandise,  
 become damaged by moisture and  
 mildew, in the Eastern Countries.

There are many advantages to be  
 derived from this direct and regular  
 system of bringing American goods  
 new and fresh to the dealers,  
 without the intervention of "outsiders".

8

The cost of maintaining on them - half of the ~~expenses~~ suggested (300, to 500 tons) would be smaller than that of any ~~other~~ <sup>other</sup> store in any one place, and when in motion, going from one port to another, transportation would be inexpensive, for fuel, &c, of which only from four to five tons of coal per day would be required.

Two experienced seamen, of the better class of "Commercial Traders", with a careful "parker" to attend to cargo, would be needed. Arrangements after the approach of such a craft would be received by traders as notice to prepare for business; and soon there would be an established commerce of mutual value.

59

It might, and probably would be  
advantageous, and profitable, to secure  
at each port the assistance of an  
established Chinese Commissionaire,  
of known reputation for prudence  
and fidelity, to have charge of all matters  
in relation to credits, by having them  
guaranteed; for a small commission,  
all debts incurred by purchases of  
approved wharves and houses.

It hints as to the manner of doing  
business by "smart methods" in  
business among Chinese should  
be noticed in the choice of laborers.

As a rule, and with very few exceptions,  
a business Chinese man abhors surprises.  
He is disturbed, or loses confidence,  
if he discovers any tendency to cunning,  
caution, or over-straining in business.

107

In business transactions the Chinese will not be induced to buy goods from a flippant talker. They want no jokes in business. When they offer goods for sale, they avoid much praise and seem to have confidence in men who are of quiet manners, and have the appearance of calmness and sincerity.

This is so much in contrast with the requisites of salesmen in Europe and America that I mention it as a point in which success might turn in an enterprise of the nature suggested for extension of American trade in the East.

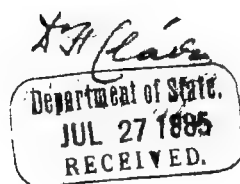
I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul

*Received*  
*Jul 31/85*  
*No. 76*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 17 - 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul,*

TO

*Hon. A. A. Phelps,*  
*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Shoe and Leather Circular.*

SYNOPSIS.

*Copied, November 1885*



No. 7

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. Schuchter

Third Asst. Sec. of State

Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt this evening of the Department of State Circular of April 8. 1885, regarding information about shoe and leather business, and in reply, have to have to inform that the great mass of natives in Canton and Southern China go barefooted throughout the year; and the better dressed classes of natives wear shoes or boots in which very little leather is used, and then only as soles, which are also of felt, and mud.

When the laborer is at work that requires protection for his feet against rough ground and stones, the article worn is usually in the form of a sandal, and sometimes it is merely a piece of board of the length and width of the foot, to which it clings by means of a strap fastened like a loop to the board sole, and passing over the foot below the instep. Another kind of sandal is made of the coarse bark cordage, fastened to the foot by strings.

The middle class of natives, such as shop-keepers, house servants in employ of "mill-to-do" natives and foreigners, generally wear a low shoe, the sole of which is wood, or felt, or leather; the sides and tops being of cloth, in which bright colored figures are worked.

If a more elaborate article is used, in the form of a boot, the leg of the boot is usually of cloth - usually cloth of cotton, sometimes white, often blue, or black.

The officials and Mandarins of some pretensions adopt a higher style of boot, made of black silk or woven cloth, felt or leather soles, and being sufficiently large high and loose in the legs to admit of carrying papers, letters, manuscripts, or documents which are to be referred to in connection with the business on which they are engaged.

About a dozen shoemakers are employed in Canton to make and repair shoes for foreigners, who wear leather. British and French shoes are sold in Hong Kong.

✓  
Leather is not mentioned in the published lists of imports at Canton, or in China; and is not among the exports of China, although I find Canton exported leather in 1884 to the value of about \$ 2,500,000.

When boots and shoes are mentioned among imports or exports in Chinese Customs Returns, it must be understood they are of the kinds herein described; and leatheren boots and shoes are not used.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.

*Recd June 31/85 L. H. Clair*

*No. 77*



United States Consulate, Canton, China.

*June 18<sup>th</sup> 1885*

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. S. Alden,*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State,*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Transmitting Copy of Dispatch  
to the Viceroy at Canton in  
regard to Peace and Navigation.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 27

United States Consulate, Canton, China..

June 18. 1885

Mr. A. A. Phelps

Third Dist. Dist. of State  
Washington D. C.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith  
attached (marked A.) Copy of a dispatch  
sent by me this day to His Excellency, the  
German Consul of the Port of Swatow, in regard  
to the restoration of peace between China  
and France, and the navigation of Canton River.  
The navigation of this River is not only made  
hazardous by the various systems (and the  
lack of systems) of torpedo defenses,  
deposited by experienced and rival contractors,  
assisted by inexperienced natives who  
are left in charge; but the navigation is

subject to conditions that seriously obstruct the passage of steamships, in respect to hours; and also in regard to fees and insurance of torpedo-pilots, under the direction of the authorities.

The Imperial Commissioner, Pang, in command of the defensive operation in Southern China, with head quarters at Canton, is known throughout China as an exceedingly intolerant official, who makes no concealment of his hatred to foreigners; and the Viceroy, or Governor General, "Chang Chih-ting", is not at all friendly to foreigners. Thus it may be necessary to have the command of the Imperial government upon these officials to restore the river navigation. I inform the U.S. Legation as above. I am, Sir,  
 Your obedient servant  
 Charles Seymour,  
 U.S. Consul

(Copy) "A"

Consulate of the United States of America.

Canton, China, June 18<sup>th</sup> 1885—

To His Excellency, Chang,

Viceroy of the Two Luangs, Canton.

Sir: The American Consul has the honor to inform His Excellency, the Governor General of the Two Luangs that throughout the World the impression is prevalent that a Treaty of Peace has been concluded between the Governments of China and France, and the fact has been proclaimed through the Governor of Hong Kong, in the withdrawal, by direction of the British Government, of all restrictions growing out of the recent war between France and China; and also through the Consulate General of France at Shanghai, by the French Government.

In the meantime no public or official announcement of the restoration of peace between China and France has been proclaimed by the Chinese Authorities at Canton; and Commerce is yet subjected to the annoyances, inconveniences, restrictions, torpedo-pilots, and hazards of war, by torpedoes and other obstructions to navigation, on the Canton River, between Canton and the sea.

The American Consul very respectfully suggests to His Excellency, the Governor General of the Two Luangs, that it is desirable, in the interests of inter-national Commerce, and to avoid the possibility of misunderstanding, that some authentic announcement in regard to the restoration of peace, and unobstructed navigation, may soon be made. This suggestion is offered at the instance of interested American citizens.

The American Consul avails himself of this opportunity to renew assurances of highest esteem; with compliments and cord.

Charles Seymour,  
United States Consul.





No. 78

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 19 1885

Rec'd 17

and Aug 21 85

FROM

Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.

TO

Hon. A. A. Alder.

Third Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington, D. C.

Subject.

Constable.

SYNOPSIS

Facts for consideration as to  
continuance of Constable.

No. 78

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 19<sup>th</sup> 1885

W. A. A. A.

~~Thos. A. A. A.~~ Secy of State.

Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Circular from the Department of State, dated April 28<sup>th</sup> 1885, in regard to prisons, Court-houses, marshals and constables, which shall have strict observance and compliance.

It is proper, however, that you should be made fully acquainted with the circumstances, which ~~would seem~~ to justify the continuance of the ~~small~~ allowance of three hundred dollars per annum for Constable at the Canton Consulate, if appropriations admit of such an expenditure.

2

Canton is unquestionably one of the most  
 turbulent localities on the Globe, and has  
 no successful competitor among ~~cities~~  
 of China for the continuous and frequency  
 of riotous outrages, and especially where  
 the slightest provocation is offered by  
 foreigners, who are too often the aggressors.  
 Among the turbulent elements which  
 require greatest watchfulness are sailors  
 and seamen of foreign ships and "Men-  
 of-War" in port, notoriously, to procure order.  
 At the present time, from one hundred to two hundred  
 seamen belonging to American ships  
 in port, there are certainly not many  
 persons among them who can have every  
 opportunity to obtain intoxicating liquors  
 from the liquor shops and dealers in the  
 immediate proximity or vicinity of the  
 Foreign Community, or "Shamien".

50

When several "Men-of-war" are in port, there are certain to be among five hundred sailors and one hundred foreigners who are ready and desire to have a drunken polio, which is very likely to wind up with a fight.

The control or jurisdiction of the officers of their respective ships is not felt as a restraining force on shore; and the small local police force of a dozen men on Shaimien is inadequate to the management of the drunken and disorderly sailors, without the aid of the Constables duly authorized by the Comands to prevent the sailors from passing through the gates at the two bridges between Shaimien and the City to purchase supplies of very inferior intoxicants from Chinese.

4/

Constables, with full pay, are employed constantly by the British and German Consulates; and when the French Consulate is in operation, it has a small military guard.

Collisions between natives and Shamien and sailors from American "Men-of-War" in port, have often been averted by the vigilance of the Constable of this United States Consulate; who, being chief of the Shamien police, only having the small salary of nine hundred dollars per annum, has, in consideration of three hundred dollars per annum from this Consulate, carefully restrained turbulent American sailors from frequenting vile liquor haunts, and from doing violence to natives, who meet quickly for resistance and riot.

(at)

This Constable is personally a "police force" in himself - being a very large, athletic, resolute, and sober Swede, who has been a police-officer in Hong Kong and on Shanghai for the past fifteen years; and was formerly a sailor or mate on sailing packets between New York and Liverpool.

Respectfully recommending, that, in view of the peculiar circumstances of the case, and his usefulness in preventing disturbances between natives and American sailors and seamen, Charles Linberg be retained and continued as Constable of this Consulate;

I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Charles Seymour  
W. L. General.



*Prosser*  
*Aug 17 '13*

*Lt. Col.*

*No. 79*

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

FROM

*Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul.*

TO

*Hon. A. S. Allen.*

*Third Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Washington, D. C.*

Subject.

*Flood and inundation.*

SYNOPSIS.

No. 79

United States Consulate, Canton, China.

June 27<sup>th</sup> 1885

~~Rev. Mr. [illegible]~~

Chief Asst. Sec. of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that "the rainy season" of 1885, which commenced about the first of March, and continued the greater portion of March and April, followed by frequent and copious showers during May, culminated, after extraordinary rains during the greater part of the first twenty days of June, in a flood or freshet along the ~~tributaries~~ and valleys of the Canton River, causing inundation of large tracts of country above, and about Canton.



17  
An American Missionary, recently returned from an extensive tour through Southern China, reported that the rice fields are so flooded as to give the appearance of lakes fifteen miles in width, above Canton a distance of fifty to one hundred miles.

The full extent of injuries to crops and property is not ascertained, but sufficient is known to admit of no doubt that the <sup>first</sup> rice crop has been very seriously damaged, and that much loss has been sustained by the inhabitants residing on low lands.

It is believed that many lives have been lost, and the numbers lost are variously estimated from one thousand to ten thousand persons.

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Canton has experienced during the past week an inundation of some severity, which the inhabitants submitted to with remarkable and praiseworthy patience, fortitude, and resource. The water in considerable portions of the City and streets of Canton was from two to four feet deep. Business was <sup>in</sup> generally suspended. The cook-houses, and lower floors of shops and dwellings were submerged. Communication could only be kept up by means of small boats through the streets of the City. All supplies of food have been scarce; and great suffering has been experienced, especially by poor people who could not hire boats.

Measures of relief are now being adopted by the wealthy class of Chinese men, and Mandarins, for the destitute sufferers in the country districts; and about ten thousand dollars have already been raised for that purpose.

The older residents (natives) say no such flood has been known for half a century.

A similar flood occurred about fifty years ago.

A portion of "Shamien", where the foreigners have resided for twenty years, has been submerged.

The health of the people generally at and about Canton is better than it was a month ago; and no epidemic now prevails.

As one of the most noteworthy features of the rainy season of 1885 in Southern China is the quantity of water-fall in a certain time, it may be stated that during the terrific rain storms which visited this country during the present month, the recorded fall of water between 10 o'clock A.M. of Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, and 10 o'clock A.M. of Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at Canton and Hong Kong, was 14.12 inches.

It is proper to make record of this noteworthy flood as one of the events of modern times.

I make no suggestion as to relief, as token of sympathy, for the distressed Chinamen at and about Canton; but it is certainly a case where benevolence would find ample scope.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
Charles Seymour  
U.S. Consul.



